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Hatayama et al.

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(54) FC BINDING PROTEIN AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SAME

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(2), (4) Date: Oct. 24, 2012

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PCT Pub. Date: Sep. 15, 2011

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Feb. 24, 2011	(JP)	 2011-038500

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	A23J 1/00	(2006.01)
	C07K 14/735	(2006.01)
	C07K 1/22	(2006.01)
	C07K 17/08	(2006.01)
	C07K 16/00	(2006.01)

(52) U.S. Cl.

(58) Field of Classification Search

None

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) ABSTRACT

Disclosed are: an Fc binding protein having increased stability with respect to heat, acid, and/or alkalinity compared with the wild type; a method for producing same; and a method for specifically isolating protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site using said Fc binding protein as a ligand for affinity chromatography.

An Fc binding protein was obtained having increased stability with respect to heat, acid, and/or alkalinity compared with the wild-type human Fc receptor by means of substituting at least one specific amino acid residue in the extracellular domain of the wild-type human Fc receptor with another amino acid residue. The Fc binding protein is useful as a ligand for affinity chromatography for example by immobilizing in a solid phase. Also, when the Fc binding protein is expressed using a host that has been transformed with an expression vector containing a polynucleotide coding for said protein, the amount of produced protein is increased compared with using a wild-type human Fc receptor.

6 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets

^{*} cited by examiner

FIG.1

1 15	16	292	293		314		<u>374</u>
SS	EC		7	М		С	

FIG.2

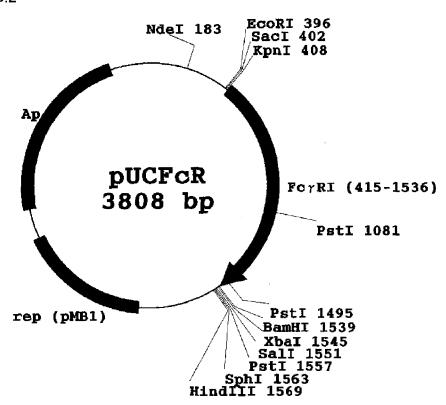


FIG.3

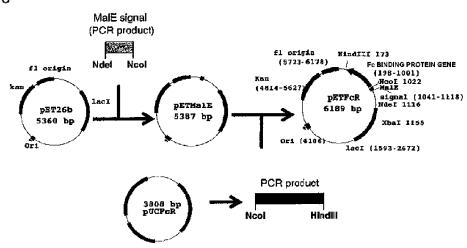


FIG.4

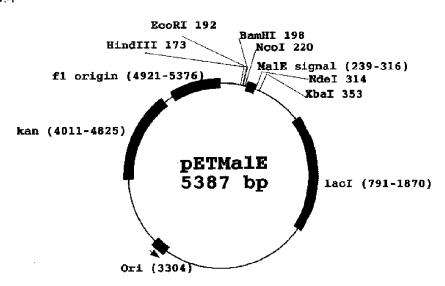
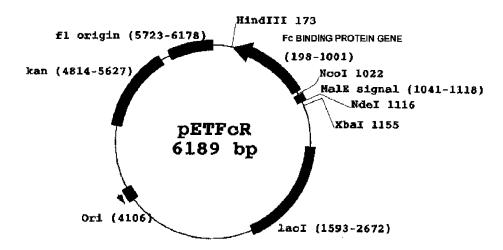
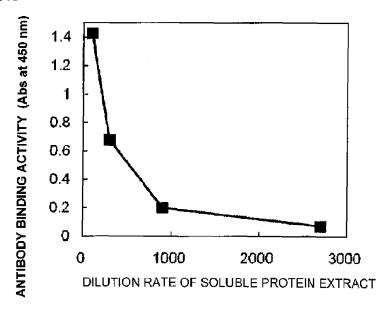
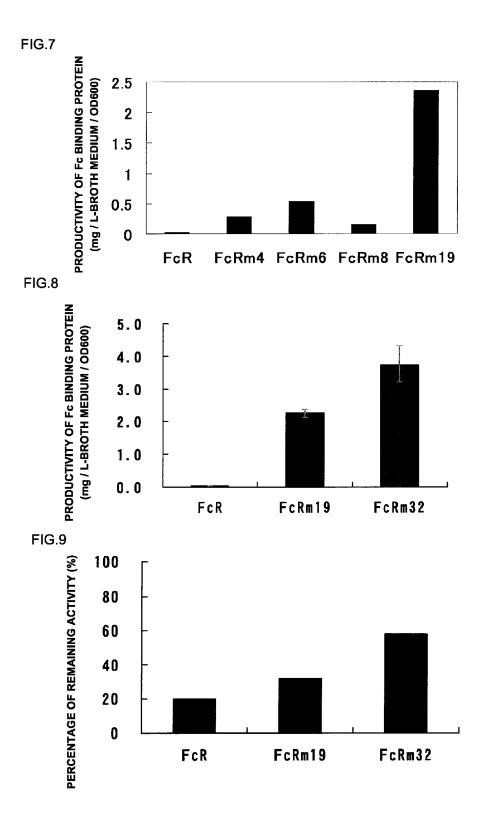


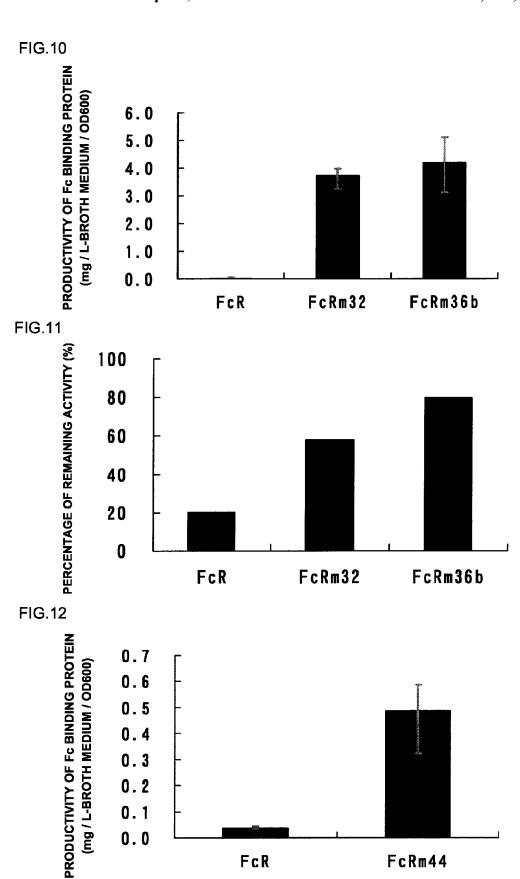
FIG.5

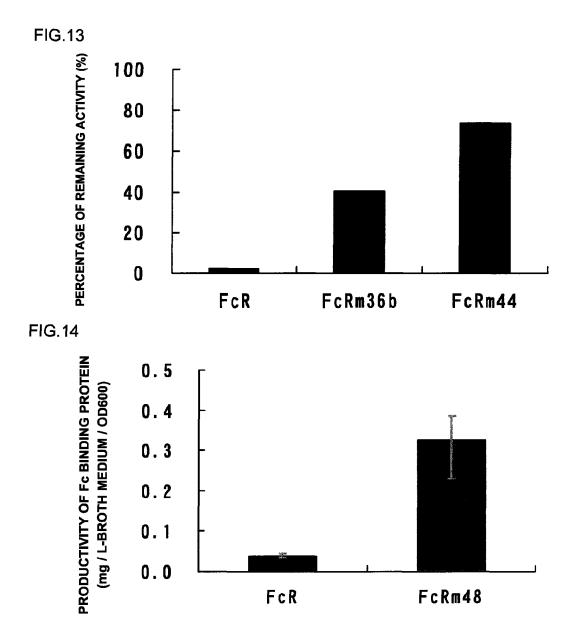












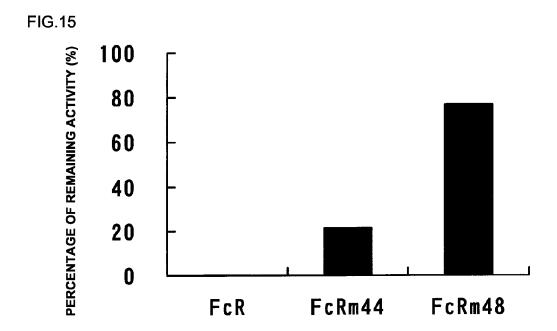
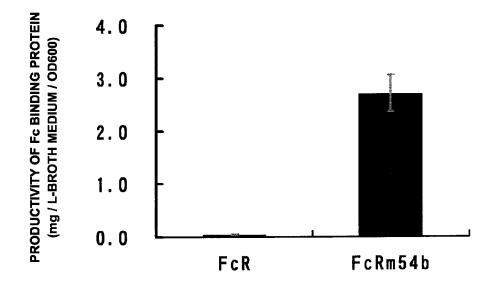
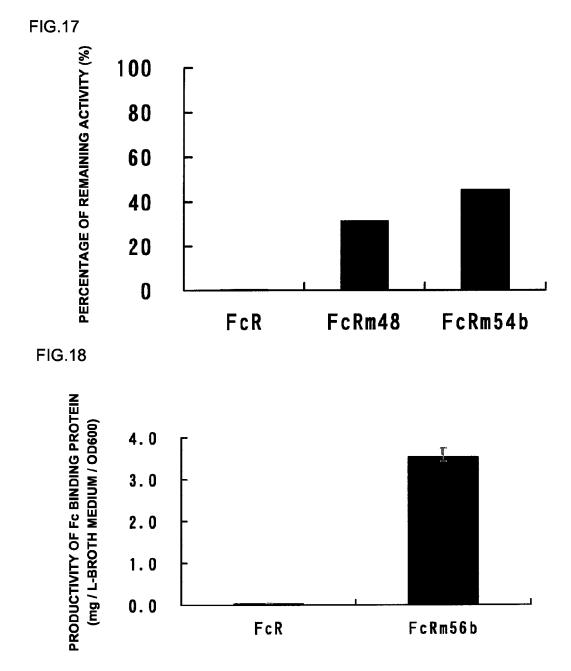
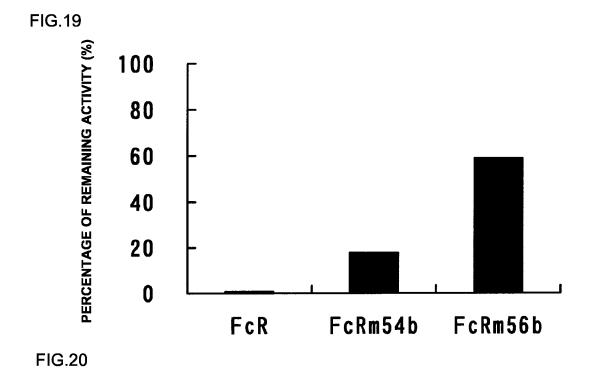


FIG.16







PRODUCTIVITY OF FC BINDING PROTEIN

(mg / L-BROTH MEDIUM / OD600)

1.0

1.0

FcR Fc BINDING PROTEIN

7.0

FcR Fc BINDING PROTEIN

Fc BINDI

FIG.21

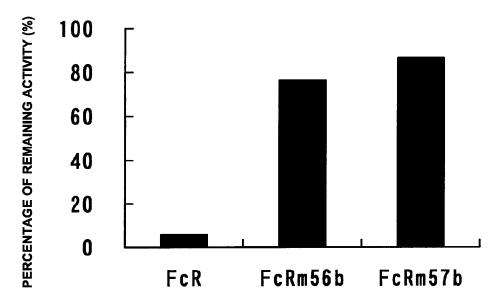
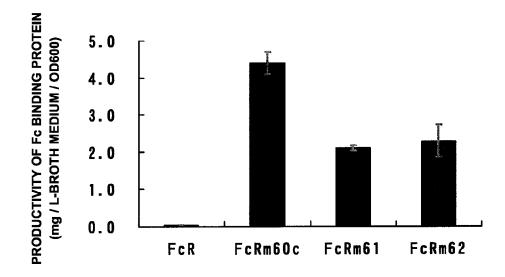


FIG.22



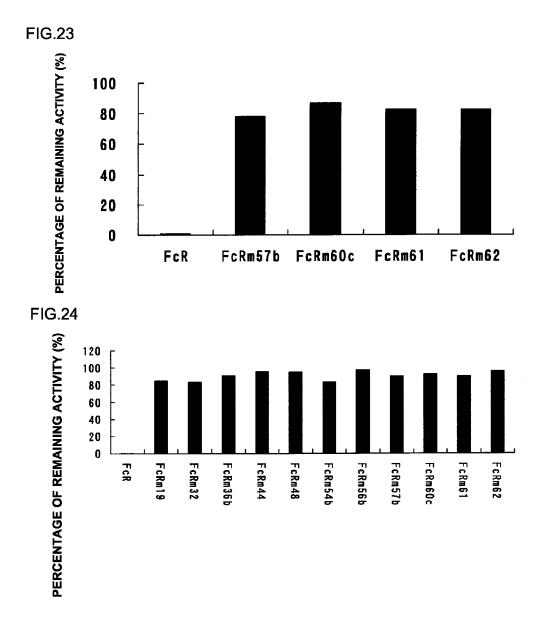


FIG.25

SECULION
SECU

FIG.26 FcRm32 100 PERCENTAGE OF IGG ELUTION (%) 80 60 40 FcRm19 20 0 3.4 3.0 4.6 3.8 4.2 pH OF ELUATE

FIG.27

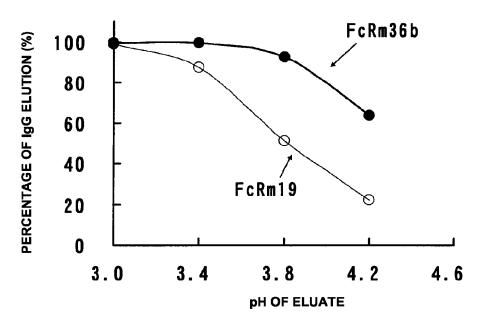
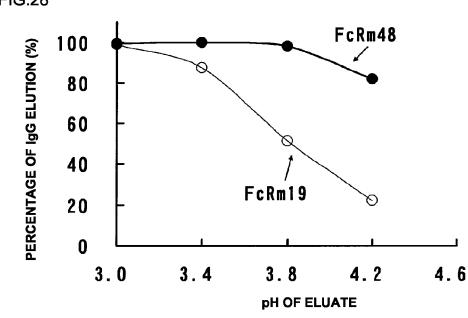
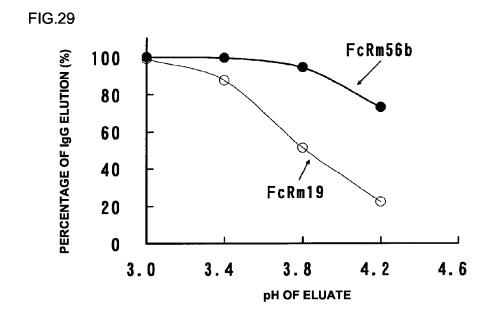


FIG.28





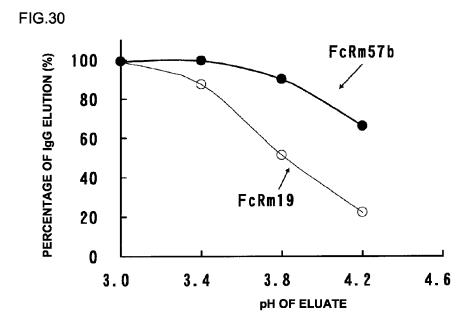


FIG.31

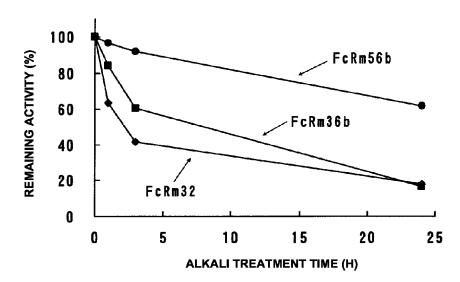
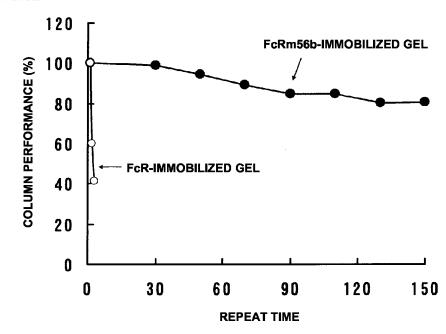


FIG.32



FC BINDING PROTEIN AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SAME

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/JP2011/001413 filed Mar. 10, 2011, claiming priority based on Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2010-052789 filed Mar. 10, 2010 and JP 2011-038500 filed Feb. 24, 2011, the contents of all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to an Fc binding protein having an affinity for an immunoglobulin. More specifically, the present invention relates to an Fc binding protein showing characteristics such as higher thermal stability than a wild-type, which can be used as, for example, an immunoglobulin affinity ligand for affinity chromatography. The present invention also relates to a method for manufacturing the protein, and an adsorbent which uses the protein as a component and adsorbs an immunoglobulin, for example.

BACKGROUND ART

An immune signal from immunoglobulin G (hereinafter, referred to as IgG) is transmitted by binding of IgG after 30 antigen trapping to an Fc receptor on the surface of an immunocyte. The Fc receptor is a group of protein molecules which binds to the Fc region of IgG, and each molecular species has an Fc recognition domain belonging to an immunoglobulin super family and recognizes a single 35 variety of immunoglobulin or the immunoglobulin belonging to the same subtype. This determines which accessory cell is recruited in each immune response (Non-Patent Literature 1). The Fc receptor can be further classified into subtypes and it has been reported that FcyRI, FcyRIIa, 40 FcyRIIb, and FcyRIII exist as receptors for IgG (Non-Patent Literature 1). Especially, the binding affinity of FcγRI to IgG is high and the equilibrium dissociation constant (K_D) thereof is 10⁻⁸ M or less (Non-Patent Literature 2).

FcyRI is divided roughly into a signal peptide region, an 45 extracellular region, a transmembrane region, and an intracytoplasmic region. The binding thereof to IgG occurs between the Fc region of IgG and the extracellular region of FcγRI, and subsequently the signal of their binding is transmitted into cytoplasm. FcyRI includes two kinds of 50 subunits, an α chain directly associated with binding to IgG, and a y chain. The y chain forms a homodimer with a covalent bond through cysteine on the boundary between the transmembrane region and the extracellular region (Non-Patent Literature 1). The amino acid sequence and the gene 55 base sequence of the α chain of FcγRI have been revealed by Non-Patent Literature 3, and thereafter an example of the expression thereof has been reported by genetic modification techniques with E. coli (Patent Literature 1) or animal cells as host cells (Non-Patent Literature 4).

The protein which constitutes the extracellular region of FcγRI (hereinafter, referred to as an Fc binding protein) as described above has excellent ability to identify a human antibody on the basis of high affinity. Based on this high affinity, the method for utilizing the Fc binding protein as a 65 ligand of affinity chromatography used in a process of manufacturing diagnostic reagents, tools for research of

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antibody drugs, or antibody drugs such as of IgG, has been reported (Patent Literature 1).

The Fc binding protein is a protein originated from a protein which works in a human living body, and it has stronger tendency to be denatured by heat and extreme change of pH, etc. than a protein present outside a living body such as on the outer surface of a bacterial cell. On the other hand, when the Fc binding protein is used as a ligand for affinity chromatography to manufacture IgG, the Fc binding protein is required to have stability to acid since the ligand may be exposed to a solution of low pH, such as a citric acid buffer solution, in eluting adsorbed IgG through chromatography procedure using a gel with the ligand immobilized thereto. In addition, the Fc binding protein is also required to have stability to alkali since the ligand may also be exposed to a solution of high pH, such as a sodium hydroxide solution, when the gel is washed or regenerated. Further, in view of the long-term storage of the gel, the Fc binding protein is also required to have stability to heat.

To industrially utilize a biological substance such as a protein, it may be required that the native structure of the biological substance is modified to newly produce a substance which is stable under the predetermined conditions. Regarding an enzyme protein, etc., many examples have been reported in which a mutation is artificially introduced into a polynucleotide encoding the enzyme protein and a mutant which acquires a desired trait is obtained after screening. However, as for the Fc binding protein which is a receptor protein, no example of modification has been reported in which stability to heat, acid, or alkali is increased and thus no example has been industrially utilized so far.

CITATION LIST

Patent Literature

Patent Literature 1: Japanese Translation of PCT Patent Application No. 2002-531086

Non-Patent Literature

Non-Patent Literature 1: J. V. Ravetch, et al., Annu. Rev. Immunol., 9, 457, 1991

Non-Patent Literature 2: Toshiyuki Takai, Jpn. J. Clin. Immunol., 28, 318, 2005

Non-Patent Literature 3: J. M. Allen, et al., Science, 243, 378, 1989

Non-Patent Literature 4: A. Paetz, et al., Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun., 338, 1811, 2005

Non-Patent Literature 5: Protein Structure and Function, Medical Sciences International, Ltd., 9, 2005

Non-Patent Literature 6: Molecular Cloning, Cold Spring Horbor Laboratory, 256, 1992

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

Technical Problem

The present invention provides an Fc binding protein having increased stability to heat, acid, and/or alkali compared with a wild-type human Fc receptor Fc γ RI, and a method for manufacturing the Fc binding protein. The present invention also provides a method for specifically isolating a protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site using the Fc binding protein as a ligand for affinity chromatography.

Solution to Problem

As a result of intensive studies to solve the aforementioned problems, the present inventors has identified an amino acid residue associated with the structural stability in 5 the Fc binding protein, and found that a mutant in which the amino acid residue is substituted by another amino acid residue has excellent stability to heat, acid, and/or alkali and is useful as a ligand for affinity chromatography, thereby completing the present invention.

That is, this application encompasses the aspects described below in (A) to (K):

- (A) An Fc binding protein, containing the amino acids at positions 16 to 289 of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 and having at least any one of the following 15 amino acid substitutions (1) to (168) in the amino acid sequence from positions 16 to 289:
- (1) threonine at position 20 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
- (2) threonine at position 25 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted $\,^{20}$ by lysine;
- (3) threonine at position 38 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;
- (4) leucine at position 46 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or proline;
- (5) alanine at position 62 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (6) threonine at position 63 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (7) serine at position 69 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by 30 phenylalanine or threonine;
- (8) arginine at position 71 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (9) valine at position 77 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or glutamic acid;
- (10) asparagine at position 78 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (11) aspartic acid at position 94 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamic acid;
- (12) isoleucine at position 100 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substi- 40 tuted by valine;
- (13) serine at position 110 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by asparagine;
- (14) phenylalanine at position 114 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (15) histidine at position 125 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (16) leucine at position 131 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or proline;
- (17) tryptophan at position 149 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 50 substituted by leucine;
- (18) leucine at position 156 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
- (19) isoleucine at position 160 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine;
- (20) asparagine at position 163 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is
- substituted by serine; (21) asparagine at position 195 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (22) threonine at position 199 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (23) asparagine at position 206 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by lysine, serine, or threonine;
- (24) leucine at position 207 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
- (25) leucine at position 218 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;

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- (26) asparagine at position 240 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (27) leucine at position 248 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- 5 (28) leucine at position 283 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
 - (29) leucine at position 285 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (30) valine at position 17 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine or glutamic acid;
- (31) threonine at position 19 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (32) threonine at position 20 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- 5 (33) threonine at position 25 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine or arginine;
 - (34) glutamine at position 27 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline or lysine;
- (35) glutamine at position 35 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine, methionine, or arginine:
- (36) glutamic acid at position 36 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (37) leucine at position 41 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine:
- 5 (38) histidine at position 42 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (39) glutamic acid at position 44 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (40) valine at position 45 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine:
- (41) leucine at position 46 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, asparagine, aspartic acid, glutamine, glycine, histidine, lysine, serine, or tryptophan;
- (42) histidine at position 47 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine, leucine, or asparagine;
- (43) proline at position 49 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine or alanine;
- (44) glycine at position 50 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamic acid;
- (45) serine at position 51 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, threonine, leucine, proline, or valine;
 - (46) serine at position 52 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (47) serine at position 53 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by 45 leucine, threonine, or proline;
 - (48) glutamine at position 55 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine:
 - (49) phenylalanine at position 57 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by tyrosine;
 - (50) leucine at position 58 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
 - (51) glycine at position 60 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (52) threonine at position 61 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 55 by alanine or serine;
 - (53) alanine at position 62 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamic acid;
 - (54) threonine at position 63 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine or phenylalanine;
 - (55) glutamine at position 64 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline, histidine, leucine or lysine;
 - (56) threonine at position 65 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or valine;
 - (57) serine at position 66 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
 - (58) threonine at position 67 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;

- (59) serine at position 69 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by
- (60) tyrosine at position 70 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or phenylalanine;
- (61) arginine at position 71 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 5 by tyrosine;
- (62) threonine at position 73 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;
- (63) serine at position 74 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by phenylalanine;
- (64) serine at position 76 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by asparagine;
- (65) valine at position 77 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid or lysine;
- (66) asparagine at position 78 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substi- 15 tuted by serine or glycine;
- (67) serine at position 80 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by
- (68) arginine at position 84 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine:
- (69) glycine at position 88 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (70) leucine at position 89 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine or proline;
- (71) serine at position 90 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by 25 glycine;
- (72) arginine at position 92 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by cysteine or leucine;
- (73) isoleucine at position 96 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine or lysine;
- (74) glutamine at position 97 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine or lysine;
- (75) histidine at position 101 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (76) arginine at position 102 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 35 by arginine; by serine or leucine;
- (77) glycine at position 103 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid or serine;
- (78) serine at position 111 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (79) phenylalanine at position 114 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, isoleucine, methionine, proline, threonine, or valine;
- (80) threonine at position 115 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine or phenylalanine;
- (81) glutamic acid at position 118 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (82) alanine at position 121 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine or valine;
- by arginine or glycine;
- (84) aspartic acid at position 129 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (85) leucine at position 131 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (86) tyrosine at position 133 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or arginine;
- (87) asparagine at position 134 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (88) tyrosine at position 137 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 60 by phenylalanine;
- (89) tyrosine at position 138 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (90) arginine at position 139 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (91) asparagine at position 140 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;

- (92) glycine at position 141 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid or valine;
- (93) lysine at position 142 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamic acid or arginine:
- (94) phenylalanine at position 144 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
 - (95) phenylalanine at position 147 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (96) histidine at position 148 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamine;
- (97) tryptophan at position 149 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (98) serine at position 151 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (99) asparagine at position 152 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine, isoleucine, or proline;
- (100) threonine at position 154 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- 20 (101) leucine at position 156 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
 - (102) lysine at position 157 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
 - (103) asparagine at position 159 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine or aspartic acid;
 - (104) isoleucine at position 160 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine, valine, or leucine;
 - (105) serine at position 161 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
 - (106) threonine at position 165 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine;
 - (107) methionine at position 171 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
 - (108) lysine at position 173 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted
 - (109) histidine at position 174 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
 - (110) threonine at position 177 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- 40 (111) isoleucine at position 181 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
 - (112) serine at position 182 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine, leucine, valine, or glutamic acid;
 - (113) threonine at position 184 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
 - (114) proline at position 190 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine:
 - (115) valine at position 193 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (83) lysine at position 128 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 50 (116) asparagine at position 195 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
 - (117) alanine at position 196 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
 - (118) valine at position 198 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 55 by glycine or methionine;
 - (119) threonine at position 199 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
 - (120) serine at position 200 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine or arginine;
 - (121) leucine at position 202 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine;
 - (122) leucine at position 203 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine, glutamine, tyrosine, arginine or proline;
 - (123) glutamic acid at position 204 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
 - (124) leucine at position 207 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine, histidine, or arginine;

- (125) threonine at position 209 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (126) serine at position 211 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glycine;
- (127) glutamic acid at position 213 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 5 substituted by valine or isoleucine:
- (128) lysine at position 215 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamic acid;
- (129) leucine at position 217 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamine;
- (130) leucine at position 218 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine, methionine, or lysine;
- (131) glutamine at position 219 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline or arginine;
- (132) leucine at position 223 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine, glutamine, or methionine;
- (133) glutamine at position 224 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (134) leucine at position 225 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 20 by glutamine;
- (135) phenylalanine at position 227 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (136) tyrosine at position 230 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or phenylalanine;
- (137) methionine at position 231 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by lysine or arginine;
- (138) serine at position 233 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine or asparagine;
- (139) lysine at position 234 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 30 by glutamic acid;
- (140) asparagine at position 240 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (141) glutamic acid at position 244 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (142) tyrosine at position 245 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or glutamic acid;
- (143) glutamine at position 246 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or lysine;
- by isoleucine; (145) threonine at position 249 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is
- substituted by alanine or serine; (146) alanine at position 250 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted
- by valine; (147) arginine at position 251 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substi-
- tuted by serine:
- (148) arginine at position 252 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (149) glutamic acid at position 253 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 50 substituted by glycine;
- (150) leucine at position 257 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamine;
- (151) glutamic acid at position 261 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine or alanine;
- (152) alanine at position 262 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted
- (153) alanine at position 263 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (154) threonine at position 264 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 60 pH 4.5. substituted by serine;
- (155) glutamic acid at position 265 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or glycine;
- (156) asparagine at position 268 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine, isoleucine, or threonine;
- (157) leucine at position 270 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine, arginine, or valine;

- (158) lysine at position 271 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (159) arginine at position 272 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (160) glutamic acid at position 277 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
 - (161) glutamine at position 279 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or histidine;
- (162) glycine at position 282 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (163) leucine at position 283 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
- (164) leucine at position 285 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or histidine;
- (165) proline at position 286 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine, arginine or glutamic acid;
 - (166) threonine at position 287 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine, proline, alanine, or valine;
 - (167) proline at position 288 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, serine, or threonine; and
 - (168) valine at position 289 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, aspartic acid, glycine, leucine, or isoleucine.
- (B) The Fc binding protein described in (A), having at least the amino acid substitution described above in any one of (4), (14), (41), and (79) in the aforementioned amino acid sequence from positions 16 to 289.
- (C) The Fc binding protein described in (B), containing the amino acids from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in any one of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 3, 4, 5, 114, 118, 130, 134, 148, 154, 164, 170, 174, and 176.
- (D) The Fc binding protein described in (B), comprising the amino acid sequence described in any one of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 3, 4, 5, 114, 118, 130, 134, 148, 154, 164, 170, 174,
- (E) A polynucleotide, encoding the Fc binding protein described in any one of (A) to (D).
- (F) An expression vector, containing the polynucleotide described in (E).
- (G) A transformant obtained by transforming a host with (144) leucine at position 248 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 40 the expression vector described in (F).
 - (H) The transformant described in (G), wherein the host is Escherichia coli.
 - (I) A method for manufacturing an Fc binding protein, comprising culturing the transformant described in (G) or (H) to produce the Fc binding protein, and recovering the produced Fc binding protein from its culture.
 - (J) An adsorbent for a protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site, the adsorbent obtained by immobilizing to a solid phase the Fc binding protein described in any one of (A) to (D).
 - (K) An antibody purification method including: (1) adding a solution containing an antibody to an adsorbent for a protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site to cause the antibody to be adsorbed to the adsorbent, the adsorbent obtained by immobilizing to a solid phase an Fc binding protein including the amino acid sequence described in any one of SEQ ID NOS: 114, 118, 130, 134, 148, 154, 164, 170, 174, and 176; and (2) eluting the antibody adsorbed to the adsorbent with a buffer solution of pH 3.0 to

Advantageous Effects of the Invention

The Fc binding protein of the present invention is a 65 protein in which at least one specific amino acid residue in the extracellular region of the wild-type human Fc receptor FcγRI is substituted by another amino acid. The protein has

increased stability to heat, acid, and/or alkali as compared with the wild-type human FcqRI. Accordingly, an antibody such as human IgG can be stably purified by using the Fc binding protein of the present invention as a ligand for affinity chromatography.

In the method for manufacturing the Fc binding protein, which includes culturing the transformant obtained by transforming a host with the expression vector containing the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein to produce the Fc binding protein, and recovering the produced Fc binding protein from the culture, protein productivity will increase when the Fc binding protein of the present invention is used as an Fc binding protein. Accordingly, the present invention is also useful in industrial manufacture of $_{15}$ the Fc binding protein.

Furthermore, the Fc binding protein of the present invention has increased stability to heat, acid, and/or alkali as compared with the wild-type human FcyRI. Accordingly, with regard to the adsorbent for the protein containing the Fc 20 the Fc binding protein (FcRm32)-immobilized gel. binding protein binding site, the adsorbent obtained by immobilizing to the solid phase the Fc binding protein of the present invention, adsorption performance is hardly decreased, for example, even when the adsorbent is regenerated by an alkali treatment (for example, a 100 mM 25 sodium hydroxide aqueous solution). Thus, it can be said that the adsorbent of the present invention is especially preferred in the application of bulk purification of antibodies such as human IgG.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of the structure of the human Fc receptor FcyRI.

FIG. 2 is a schematic diagram of the structure of the 35 plasmid pUCFcR inserted with the polynucleotide encoding the human FcyRI.

FIG. 3 is a schematic diagram of production of the plasmid pETFcR inserted with the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein.

FIG. 4 is a schematic diagram of the structure of the plasmid pETMalE.

FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram of the structure of the plasmid pETFcR.

FIG. 6 is a graph for evaluating the antibody binding 45 activity of the Fc binding protein expressed in a plasmid pETFcR transformant.

FIG. 7 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding proteins (FcRm4, FcRm6, FcRm8, FcRm19).

FIG. 8 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc 50 binding protein (FcRm32).

FIG. 9 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein (FcRm32).

FIG. 10 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding protein (FcRm36b).

FIG. 11 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein (FcRm36b).

FIG. 12 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding protein (FcRm44).

FIG. 13 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the 60 Fc binding protein (FcRm44).

FIG. 14 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding protein (FcRm48).

FIG. 15 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein (FcRm48).

FIG. 16 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding protein (FcRm54b).

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FIG. 17 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein (FcRm54b).

FIG. 18 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding protein (FcRm56b).

FIG. 19 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein (FcRm56b).

FIG. 20 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding protein (FcRm57b).

FIG. 21 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein (FcRm57b).

FIG. 22 is a graph for evaluating the productivity of the Fc binding proteins (FcRm60c, FcRm61, FcRm62).

FIG. 23 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the Fc binding proteins (FcRm60c, FcRm61, FcRm62).

FIG. 24 is a graph for evaluating the acid stability of the Fc binding proteins.

FIG. 25 is a graph for evaluating the antibody elution of the Fc binding protein (FcRm19)-immobilized gel.

FIG. 26 is a graph for evaluating the antibody elution of

FIG. 27 is a graph for evaluating the antibody elution of the Fc binding protein (FcRm36b)-immobilized gel.

FIG. 28 is a graph for evaluating the antibody elution of the Fc binding protein (FcRm48)-immobilized gel.

FIG. 29 is a graph for evaluating the antibody elution of the Fc binding protein (FcRm56b)-immobilized gel.

FIG. 30 is a graph for evaluating the antibody elution of the Fc binding protein (FcRm57b)-immobilized gel.

FIG. 31 is a graph for evaluating the alkali stability of the 30 Fc binding protein (FcRm32, FcRm36b, FcRm56b)-immobilized gels.

FIG. 32 is a graph for evaluating the repeat stability of the Fc binding protein (FcRm56b)-immobilized gel.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

The Fc binding protein of the present embodiment will be described below in detail.

FIG. 1 shows the structure of the α chain of the human Fc 40 receptor Fc γ RI. The α chain of the human Fc receptor Fc γ RI comprises the signal peptide region including 15 amino acids from the N-terminal side (SS, the region from positions 1 to 15 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1), the extracellular region including 277 amino acids (EC, the region from positions 16 to 292 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1), the transmembrane region including 21 amino acids (TM, the region from positions 293 to 313 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1), and the intracellular region including 61 amino acids (C, the region from positions 314 to 374 in amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1).

The Fc binding protein of the present embodiment contains at least the region from glutamine at position 16 to valine at position 289 in the extracellular region (EC region 55 in FIG. 1) from glutamine at position 16 to histidine at position 292 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1. The Fc binding protein of the present embodiment may contain all or a part of the signal peptide region (SS region in FIG. 1) at the N-terminal side of the EC region, or may include the transmembrane region (TM region in FIG. 1) or the intracellular region (C region in FIG. 1) at the C-terminal side of the EC region. Further, the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment may have a tag peptide, such as a polyhistidine tag, for purification or others added to the N-terminal side or the C terminal side.

The Fc binding protein of the present embodiment is a polypeptide in which at least one amino acid residue in the

region from glutamine at position 16 to valine at position 289, which is a part of the extracellular region (EC region in FIG. 1) in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by another amino acid residue. The substitution allows the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment to have significantly increased thermal stability, acid stability, and/or alkali stability as compared to wild-type human FcyRI including the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, and thereby to become useful as a ligand for affinity chromatography. For example, the Fc binding 10 protein illustrated in Example possesses the antibody binding activity more than or equal to the wild-type human FcyRI which does not have any amino acid substitution, even if subjected to a heat-treatment at 43° C. for 10 minutes, a heat-treatment at 70° C. for 20 minutes, a 15 treatment under the acidic conditions of pH 3.0 for 24 hours, or a treatment under the alkaline conditions of pH 10 at 53° C. for 20 minutes.

Specifically, the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment contains at least the amino acid sequence of the region 20 from glutamine at position 16 to valine at position 289 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1. Further, the amino acid sequence is a polypeptide which has any one or more of the following substitutions: Thr20Pro (This letter means that threonine at position 20 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 25 substituted by proline. The same applies to the following letters.), Thr25Lys, Thr38Ala, Thr38Ser, Leu46Arg, Leu46Pro, Ala62Val, Thr63Ile, Ser69Phe, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Asp94Glu, Ile100Val, Ser110Asn, Phe114Leu, His125Arg, Leu131Arg, 30 Leu131Pro, Trp149Leu, Leu156Pro, Ile160Met, Asn163Ser, Asn195Thr, Thr199Ser, Asn206Lys, Asn206Ser, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Leu218Val, Asn240Asp, Leu248Ser, Leu283His, Leu285Gln, Val17Gly, Val17Glu, Thr19Ile, Thr20Ile, Thr25Met, Thr25Arg, Gln27Pro, 35 Gln27Lys, Gln35Leu, Gln35Met, Gln35Arg, Glu36Gly, Leu41Met, His42Leu, Glu44Asp, Val45Ala, Leu46Ala, Leu46Asn, Leu46Asp, Leu46Gln, Leu46Gly, Leu46His, Leu46Lys, Leu46Ser, Leu46Trp, His47Gln, His47Leu, His47Asn, Pro49Ser, Pro49Ala, Gly50Arg, Gly50Glu, 40 Ser51Ala, Ser51Thr, Ser51Leu, Ser51Pro, Ser51Val, Ser52Gly, Ser53Leu, Ser53Thr, Ser53Pro, Gln55Arg, Phe57Tyr, Leu58Arg, Gly60Asp, Thr61Ala, Thr61Ser, Ala62Glu, Thr63Leu, Thr63Phe, Gln64Pro, Gln64His, Gln64Leu, Gln64Lys, Thr65Ala, Thr65Val, Ser66Thr, 45 Thr67Ser, Ser69Ala, Tyr70His, Tyr70Phe, Thr67Ala, Arg71Tvr. Thr73Ala, Thr73Ser, Ser74Phe, Ser76Asn, Val77Asp, Val77Lys, Asn78Ser, Asn78Gly, Ser80Ala, Arg84Ser, Gly88Ser, Leu89Gln, Leu89Pro, Ser90Gly, Arg92Cys, Arg92Leu, Ile96Val, Ile96Lys, Gln97Leu, 50 Gln97Lys, His101Leu, Arg102Ser, Arg102Leu, Gly103Asp, Gly103Ser, Ser111Ala, Phe114Ala, Phe114Ile, Phe114Met, Phe114Pro, Phe114Thr, Phe114Val, Thr115Ile, Thr115Phe, Glu118Asp, Ala121Thr, Ala121Val, Lys128Arg, Lys128Gly, Asp129Gly, Tyr133Arg, 55 Leu131Gln, Tyr133His, Asn134Ser, Tyr137Phe, Tyr138His, Arg139His, Gly141Asp, Gly141Val, Lys142Glu, Asn140Asp, Lys142Arg, Phe144Ile, Phe147Ser, His148Arg, His148Gln, Trp149Arg, Ser151Thr, Asn152Thr, Asn152Ile, Asn152Pro, Leu156His, Lys157Arg, Asn159Thr, 60 Thr154Ser, Asn159Asp, Ile160Thr, Ile160Val, Ile160Leu, Ser161Thr, Thr165Met, Met171Thr, Lys173Arg, His174Gln, Thr177Ser, Ile181Thr, Ser182Thr, Ser182Leu, Ser182Val, Ser182Glu, Thr184Ser, Pro190Ser, Val193Leu, Asn195Ala, Ala196Ser, Val198Gly, Val198Met, Thr199Ala, Ser200Gly, 65 Ser200Arg, Leu202Met, Leu203His, Leu203Gln, Leu203Tyr, Leu203Arg, Leu203Pro, Glu204Val,

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Leu207Gln. Leu207His. Leu207Arg, Thr209Ala. Ser211Arg, Ser211Gly, Glu213Val, Glu213Ile, Lys215Arg, Lys215Glu, Leu217Arg, Leu217Gln, Leu218Ile, Gln219Arg, Leu218Met, Leu218Lys, Gln219Pro, Leu223Arg, Leu223Gln, Leu223Met, Gln224Arg, Leu225Gln, Phe227Ile, Tyr230His, Tyr230Phe, Met231Lys, Met231Arg, Ser233Gly, Ser233Asn, Lys234Glu, Asn240Gly, Glu244Val, Tyr245His, Tyr245Glu, Gln246Arg, Gln246Lys, Leu248Ile, Thr249Ala, Thr249Ser, Ala250Val, Arg251Ser, Arg252His, Glu253Gly, Leu257Arg, Leu257Gln, Glu261Val, Glu261Ala, Ala262Val, Ala263Ser, Thr264Ser, Glu265Ala, Glu265Gly, Asn268Ser, Asn268Ile, Leu270His, Leu270Arg, Asn268Thr, Leu270Val, Lys271Arg, Arg272Gln, Glu277Val, Gln279Arg, Gln279His. Gly282Asp, Leu283Pro, Leu285Arg, Leu285His, Pro286Gln, Pro286Arg, Pro286Glu, Thr287Ile, Thr287Pro, Thr287Ala, Thr287Val, Pro288Ala, Pro288Ser, Pro288Thr, Val289Ala, Val289Asp, Val289Gly, Val289Leu, and Val289Ile.

Moreover, among the aforementioned substitutions, the amino acid sequence preferably has any one or more of the following substitutions to further increase thermal stability: Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Thr38Ser, Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Ile160Met, Asn163Ser, Asn195Thr, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Asn240Asp, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln.

Furthermore, among the aforementioned substitutions, the amino acid sequence preferably has any one or more of the following substitutions to further increase stability of the Fc binding protein to heat, acid, and alkali: Leu46Arg, Leu46Pro, Leu46Ala, Leu46Asn, Leu46Asp, Leu46Gln, Leu46Gly, Leu46His, Leu46Lys, Leu46Ser, Leu46Trp, Phe114Leu, Phe114Ala, Phe114Ile, Phe114Met, Phe114Pro, Phe114Thr, and Phe114Val.

When the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment is produced by causing the amino acid substitution, the amino acid at a specific position may be substituted by an amino acid other than that in the substitution described above as long as the Fc binding protein has the antibody binding activity. Examples thereof include a conserved substitution which is a substitution between amino acids having both or either of similar physical properties and chemical properties. It is known by a person skilled in the art that the conserved substitution generally can keep the function of proteins between those with substitution and those without substitution not only for the Fc binding protein. Examples of the conserved substitution include the substitution between glycine and alanine, between aspartic acid and glutamic acid, between serine and proline, or between glutamic acid and alanine (Non-Patent Literature 5).

In the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment, the number of the amino acid to be substituted is not particularly limited. Examples include the following substitution products (a) to (n). Among these substitution products, particularly, the substitution products described in (c) to (n) are preferred in terms of further increased stability to heat, acid, and alkali.

- (a) the tetrasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2) having the substitutions of Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Phe114Leu, and Asn240Asp,
- (b) the hexasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 3) having the substitutions of Thr38Ser, Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, and Asn240Asp,

(c) the octasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 4) having the substitutions of Thr38Ser, Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Ile160Met, Asn163Ser, and 5 Asn240Asp,

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(d) the nonadecasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 5) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Thr38Ser, 10 Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Ile160Met, Asn163Ser, Asn195Thr, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Asn240Asp, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln,

(e) the dotriacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 114) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Val45Ala, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, 20 Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Tyr133His, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Leu156Pro, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Asn195Thr, Leu203His, Asn206Thr, Leu207Gln, Met231Lys, Asn240Asp, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln,

(f) the hexatriacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 118) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, Val45Ala, 30 Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser52Gly, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Tyr133His, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Asn195Thr, Leu203His, Asn206Thr, Leu207Gln, 35 Met231Lys, Asn240Asp, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln,

(g) the tetratetracontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 130) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, 40 Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, Val45Ala, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser52Gly, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Lys128Arg, Tyr133His, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, 45 Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Asn195Thr. Leu203His. Asn206Thr. Leu207Gln, Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, Met231Lys, Thr249Ala, Glu261Val, Leu283His, and Asn240Asp, Leu285Gln,

(h) the octatetracontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 134) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, Val45Ala, 55 Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser51Thr, Ser52Gly, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Lys128Arg, Leu131Gln, Tyr133His, Tyr137Phe, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, 60 Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Thr184Ser, Asn195Thr, Leu203His, Asn206Thr, Leu207Gln, Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, Met231Lys, Asn240Asp, Thr249Ala, Glu261Val, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln,

(i) the tetrapentacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding 65 protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID

NO: 148) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, His42Leu, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser51Ala, Ser52Gly, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Thr73Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Ala121Val, Lys128Arg, Leu131Gln, Tyr133His, Tyr137Phe, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Ser151Thr, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Thr184Ser, Asn195Thr, Thr199Ala, Leu203His, Asn206Thr, Leu207Gln, Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, Asn240Asp, Met231Lys, Lys234Glu, Thr249Ala, Glu261Val, Leu270Val, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln,

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(j) the hexapentacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 154) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, His42Leu, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser51Ala, Ser52Gly, Leu58Arg, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Thr73Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Ser111Ala, Phe114Leu, Thr115Ile, Ala121Val, Lys128Arg, Leu131Gln, Tyr133His, Tyr137Phe, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Ser151Thr, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Thr184Ser, 25 Asn195Thr, Thr199Ala, Leu203His, Asn206Thr, Leu207Gln, Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, Met231Lys, Leu270Val, Lys234Glu, Asn240Asp, Thr249Ala, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln,

(k) the heptapentacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 164) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, His42Leu, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser51Ala, Ser52Gly, Leu58Arg, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Tyr70Phe, Arg71His, Thr73Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Ser111Ala, Phe114Leu, Thr115Ile, Ala121Val, Lys128Arg, Tyr133His, Tyr137Phe, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Ser151Thr, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Thr184Ser, Asn195Thr, Thr199Ala, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro. Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, Tyr230Phe, Met231Lys, Ser233Gly, Lys234Glu, Thr249Ala, Asn240Asp, Leu270Val, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln,

(1) the hexacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEO ID NO: 174) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, His42Leu, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser51Ala, Ser52Gly, Leu58Arg, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Tyr70Phe, Arg71His, Thr73Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Ser111Ala, Phe114Leu, Thr115Ile, Ala121Val, Lys128Arg, Tyr133His, Tyr137Phe, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Ser151Thr, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Thr165Met, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Thr184Ser, Asn195Thr, Thr199Ala, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Glu213Val, Leu217Gln, Leu218Ile, Tyr230Phe, Met231Lys, Lys234Glu, Asn240Asp, Ser233Gly, Thr249Ala, Leu270Val, Leu283His, Leu285Gln, and Val289Asp,

(m) the henhexacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 170) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, His42Leu, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser51Ala, Ser52Gly, Leu58Arg, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Tyr70Phe,

Arg71His, Thr73Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Ser111Ala, Phe114Leu, Thr115Ile, Glu118Asp, Ala121Val, Lys128Arg, Tyr133His, Tyr137Phe, Arg139His, Trp149Arg. Ser151Thr. Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro. Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Thr165Met, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Thr184Ser, Asn195Thr, Thr199Ala, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, Tyr230Phe, Ser233Gly, Lys234Glu, Met231Lys, Asn240Asp, Gln246Lys, Thr249Ala, Leu270Val, Leu283His, Leu285Gln, and Val289Asp,

(n) the dohexacontasubstitution product (the Fc binding protein containing the amino acid sequence from positions 34 to 307 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 176) having the substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, $_{15}$ Gln35Leu, Glu36Gly, Thr38Ser, Leu41Met, His42Leu, Leu46Pro, Pro49Ser, Ser51Ala, Ser52Gly, Leu58Arg, Gly60Asp, Thr63Ile, Thr65Ala, Ser69Thr, Tyr70Phe, Arg71His, Thr73Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Gln97Leu, Ile100Val, Ser111Ala, Phe114Leu, Thr115Ile, Glu118Asp, 20 Ala121Val, Lys128Arg, Tyr133His, Tyr137Phe, Arg139His, Ser151Thr, Trp149Arg, Asn152Thr, Leu156Pro, Lys157Arg, Ile160Thr, Asn163Ser, Thr165Met, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Ser182Leu, Thr184Ser, Asn195Thr, Thr199Ala, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Glu213Val, Leu217Gln, 25 Leu218Ile, Tyr230Phe, Met231Lys, Ser233Gly, Lys234Glu, Asn240Asp, Gln246Lys, Thr249Ala, Leu270Val. Leu283His, Leu285Gln, and Val289Asp.

Examples of the methods for manufacturing the polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence encoding the Fc 30 binding protein of the present embodiment (hereinafter, simply referred to as the polynucleotide of the present embodiment) include, the methods (I) and (II) described below.

(I) The method for converting the amino acid sequence of 35 the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment to a nucleotide sequence to artificially synthesize the polynucleotide including the nucleotide sequence.

(II) The method for preparing the polynucleotide including the whole or a partial sequence of human FcyRI directly and 40 artificially or using a DNA amplification method, such as a PCR method, from human FcyRI cDNA, etc., to link the prepared polynucleotides together in a suitable manner.

In addition, the amino acid sequence is preferably converted to the nucleotide sequence in consideration of the 45 frequency in use of codons in a host to be transformed. As an example, in the case of *E. coli (Escherichia coli)* as a host, AGA/AGG/CGG/CGA in arginine (Arg), ATA in isoleucine (Ile), CTA in leucine (Leu), GGA in glycine (Gly), and CCC in proline (Pro) are less frequently used (so-called 50 rare codons) respectively, and thus these codons may be avoided in conversion. The frequency in use of codons can be also analyzed by utilizing public databases (for example, Codon Usage Database in the homepage of Kazusa DNA Research Institute, etc.).

When a mutation is introduced into the polynucleotide of the present embodiment by the method (II), a so-called error-prone PCR method can also be used as a DNA amplification method. The reaction conditions in the error-prone PCR method are not particularly limited as long as a 60 desired mutation can be introduced into the polynucleotide encoding human FcyRI. For example, a mutation can be introduced into the polynucleotide by making uneven concentration of four kinds of deoxynucleotide (dATP/dTTP/dCTP/dGTP) which is a substrate, and adding MnCl₂ with a 65 concentration of 0.01 to 10 mM (preferably 0.1 to 1 mM) to a PCR solution to perform PCR.

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Moreover, the methods for introducing a mutation into the polynucleotide of the present embodiment also include the method (III) described below.

(III) the method for causing a drug to be a mutagen to contact and act on the polynucleotide including the whole or a partial sequence of human $Fc\gamma RI$, or irradiating the polynucleotide with ultraviolet light to introduce a mutation to the polynucleotide. As the drug to be a mutagen, the mutagenic drugs which are generally used by a person skilled in the art may be used, such as hydroxylamine, N-methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine, nitrous acid, sulfurous acid, and hydrazine.

The 5' terminal side of the polynucleotide of the present embodiment, which is produced by the method (I), (II), or (III), may have the polynucleotide encoding a signal peptide added. In the case of *E. coli* as a host, the signal peptide includes signal peptides causing the periplasm such as pelB, DsbA, MalE (SEQ ID NO: 182), and TorT to secrete proteins (Japanese Patent Application No. 2009-256180).

In the case of transformation of a host using the polynucleotide of the present embodiment, the polynucleotide of the present embodiment itself may be used, but an expression vector (for example, a bacteriophage, a cosmid, or a plasmid which is generally used for transformation of a prokaryotic cell or an eukaryotic cell, etc.) having the polynucleotide of the present embodiment inserted at a suitable position is more preferably used. The expression vector is not particularly limited as long as it is stable and can be replicated in a host to be transformed. In the case of E. coli as a host, examples of the expression vector include a pET plasmid vector, a pUC plasmid vector, a pTrc plasmid vector, a pCDF plasmid vector, and a pBBR plasmid vector. The suitable position means the position at which the region associated with replication function of the expression vector, a desired antibiotic marker and transmissibility is not destroyed. In inserting the polynucleotide of the present embodiment into the expression vector, the polynucleotide is preferably inserted into the expression vector with being linked to a functional polynucleotide such as a promoter necessary for expression. Examples of the promoter include, in the case of E. coli as a host, a trp promoter, a tac promoter, a trc promoter, a lac promoter, a T7 promoter, a recA promoter, a lpp promoter, as well as a \(\lambda PL \) promoter and a λ PR promoter of a λ phage.

Transformation of a host with the expression vector produced by the aforementioned method and having the polynucleotide of the present embodiment inserted may be carried out by the methods which are generally used by a person skilled in the art. For example, when microorganisms belonging to genus Escherichia (E. coli JM 109 strain, BL21 (DE3) strain, etc.) are selected as a host, transformation may be carried out by the methods such as described in Non-Patent Literature 6. The transformants obtained by transformation with such a method are screened by a suitable method to obtain a transformant which expresses the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment having increased stability to heat, acid, and alkali. From this transformant, the expression vector having the polynucleotide of the present embodiment inserted may be prepared using an alkaline extraction method, or a commercially available extraction kit such as QIAprep Spin Miniprep kit (produced by QIA-GEN). The transformant which expresses the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment can be screened, for example, by determining the binding activity of antibodies to the Fc binding protein expressed. The binding activity of antibodies, for example, to IgG can be determined by ELISA

or surface plasmon resonance, etc. IgG used for determining the binding activity is preferably human IgG, and particularly preferably human IgG1.

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The Fc binding protein of the present embodiment can be manufactured by culturing the host (transformant) which is 5 transformed with the expression vector containing the polynucleotide of the present embodiment. The method for manufacturing the Fc binding protein, specifically, includes culturing the transformant, and recovering the Fc binding proteins of the present embodiment from the culture. In this specification, the culture conceptually refers to not only the cell itself of the cultured transformant but also the medium used for culturing, etc. Recovery can be carried out by, for example, extracting the Fc binding protein from the culture. The transformant used in the method for manufacturing the 15 Fc binding protein of the present embodiment may be cultured in a medium suitable for culturing a target host, and, in the case of E. coli as a host, a LB (Luria-Bertani) medium supplemented with essential nutrients is included as an example of a preferable medium. In order to make possible 20 selective growth of the transformant according to the presence or absence of introduction of the expression vector containing the polynucleotide of the present embodiment, it is preferable that the drug corresponding to a drug resistance gene included in the expression vector be added to a medium 25 for culturing. For example, when the expression vector includes the kanamycin resistant gene, kanamycin may be added to a medium. To a medium, sources of carbon, nitrogen, and an inorganic salt as well as suitable nutrients may be added. The medium, if desired, may include one or 30 more kinds of reducing agents selected from the group consisting of glutathione, cysteine, cystamine, thioglycolate, and dithiothreitol. Furthermore, the reagent, such as glycine, for enhancing protein secretion of the transformant to a broth medium may be added and, specifically, it is preferable 35 that glycine be added at 2% (w/v) or less to a medium in the case of E. coli as a host.

The incubation temperature, in the case of $E.\ coli$ as a host, is generally $10^{\circ}\ C.$ to $40^{\circ}\ C.$, preferably $25^{\circ}\ C.$ to $35^{\circ}\ C.$, and more preferably around $30^{\circ}\ C.$, but may be selected 40 according to characteristics of the Fc binding protein to be expressed. The pH of a medium, in the case of $E.\ coli$ as a host, is pH 6.8 to pH 7.4, and preferably around pH 7.0.

When an inducible promoter is included in the expression vector containing the polynucleotide of the present embodi- 45 ment, it may be induced under the conditions such that the polypeptide containing the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment can be favorably expressed. Exemplary inducers include IPTG (isopropyl-β-D-thiogalactopyranoside). In the case of E. coli as a host, the turbidity (the absorbance at 50 600 nm) of a broth medium is determined and, when it is from about 0.5 to 1.0, an adequate amount of IPTG is added to the broth medium, and subsequent culture can induce expression of the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment. The concentration of IPTG added may be properly 55 selected from the range of 0.005 mM to 1.0 mM, preferably in the range of 0.01 mM to 0.5 mM. Various conditions about IPTG induction may be in accordance with the conditions which are well-known in the art.

In order to extract the Fc binding protein from the broth 60 medium of the transformant of the present embodiment, an extraction method may be properly selected according to the form of expression. When the Fc binding protein is expressed in a culture supernatant, bacterial cells may be separated by centrifugation to extract the Fc binding protein 65 from the obtained culture supernatant. On the other hand, when the Fc binding protein is intracellularly expressed

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(including a periplasm in a procaryote), bacterial cells may be collected by centrifugation and then lysed by adding an enzyme treatment agent or a surfactant, etc. to extract the Fc binding protein.

Isolation and purification of the Fc binding protein from the extracted protein may be carried out using well-known methods in the art. Examples thereof include isolation and purification using liquid chromatography. Examples of liquid chromatography include ion exchange chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, gel filtration chromatography, and affinity chromatography. Purification procedure in combination with these chromatographies allows high purity of the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment to be prepared.

The Fc binding protein of the present embodiment is, for example, useful as a ligand for affinity chromatography to isolate and purify the protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site. In application of the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment to the aforementioned chromatography, for example, it can be used in the mode of an adsorbent with the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment immobilized to the solid phase, which adsorbs the protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site (hereinafter, simply referred to as the adsorbent of the present embodiment).

Exemplary solid phases to which the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment is immobilized include substances containing hydrophilic vinyl polymer, silica, glass, Sepharose (registered trademark), agarose, cellulose, hydroxyapatite, and polystyrene. The form of the solid phase is preferably the form with pores controlled or the form of a membrane in terms of higher resolution. To immobilize the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment to the solid phase, for example, an active group, such as an epoxy group, a formyl group, an amino group, and a carboxyl group may be introduced into the surface of the solid phase, and subsequently the amino acid residue on the surface of the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment may be covalently bonded to the active group introduced into the surface of the solid phase.

Examples of the protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site to be isolated and purified using the adsorbent of the present embodiment (hereinafter, referred to as the target protein) include the protein containing the constant region of IgG. Specific examples thereof include IgG, and a fused protein of the Fc binding protein binding site of IgG with another protein. The constant region of IgG, as used here, may include, for example, a hinge, or CH2 and CH3 domains which are produced from IgG by protease treatment such as papain. Examples of the target protein to be isolated and purified using the adsorbent of the present embodiment include human IgG, humanized IgG, mouse IgG, rat IgG, rabbit IgG, and camel IgG. Particularly, human IgG or humanized IgG is preferred. Examples of human IgGs to be isolated and purified using the adsorbent of the present embodiment include human IgG1, human IgG2, human IgG3, and human IgG4. Other examples of the target protein to be isolated and purified using the adsorbent of the present embodiment include a monoclonal IgG antibody, a polyclonal IgG antibody, and an IgG fragment.

The method for isolating and purifying the target protein such as an antibody using the adsorbent of the present embodiment comprises, for example, the steps (1) and (2) described below:

(1) causing the target protein to be adsorbed to the adsorbent, by adding a solution containing the target protein to the adsorbent for the protein containing the Fc binding protein

binding site, the adsorbent obtained by immobilizing the Fc binding protein of the present embodiment to the solid phase.

(2) eluting the target protein adsorbed to the adsorbent with a suitable eluate.

The target protein, such as an antibody, to be isolated and purified using the adsorbent of the present embodiment can be expressed and produced in animal cells such as CHO cells (Chinese hamster ovary cells), insect cells, bacteria such as E. coli and Bacillus genus bacteria, yeasts such as baker's 10 yeast (Saccharomyces cerevisiae) and pombe yeast (Schizosaccharomyces pombe), or filamentous fungi such as Aspergillus, using genetic modification technology, for example. When the target protein is produced in the form with a carbohydrate chain required on the surface thereof, 15 animal cells, insect cells, yeasts, and filamentous fungi, which are eukaryotic cells, may be selected, and CHO cells are more preferably used. Examples of the solution containing the target protein to be isolated and purified using the adsorbent of the present embodiment include broth medium 20 of a host (such as animal cells, insect cells, bacteria, yeasts, filamentous fungi) capable of expressing the target protein, a solution of crushed plant capable of expressing the target protein, and milk of an animal such as cow. With respect to broth medium among these examples, a host capable of 25 expressing the target protein may be contained or the host may be removed by a suitable pretreatment. Exemplary suitable pretreatments as used here may include centrifugation, microfiltration membrane and ultrafiltration membrane, and methods well-known to a person skilled in the art in may 30 be adopted.

Examples of the step of causing the target protein to be adsorbed to the adsorbent of the present embodiment include a step of adding the solution containing the target protein directly or with adjusted pH using a liquid delivery system 35 suitable for the column for isolation and purification using the adsorbent of the present embodiment, thereby attaining adsorption of the target protein. The column for isolation and purification can be produced by, for example, filling an empty column of suitable volume with the adsorbent of the 40 present embodiment. For the liquid delivery system, for example, a high-pressure pump and a peristaltic pump which are used in liquid chromatography can be used. When the pH of the solution containing the target protein is adjusted, as long asunder the conditions that do not cause denatured 45 target protein, pH to be adjusted is not particularly limited and may be neutral, acidic, or alkaline. In addition, in the case of normal target protein, pH is adjusted preferably in the range of pH 3 to pH 10, and particularly preferably in the range of pH 4 to pH 8.

When the target protein adsorbed to the adsorbent of the present embodiment is eluted, after the adsorption step, the target protein may be eluted immediately, but preferably eluted after a washing step for removing contaminating proteins using a suitable washing liquid before the elution 55 step. The washing liquid may be any buffer solution having adjusted pH of the conditions under which the target protein is not eluted. Examples of components of the buffer solution used as the washing liquid include acetic acid, citric acid, histidine, phosphoric acid, boric acid, ammonium salts (for 60 example, ammonium acetate and ammonium succinate), MES (2-Morpholinoethanesulfonic acid monohydrate), MOPS (3-Morpholinopropanesulfonic acid), HEPES (2-[4-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl]ethanesulfonic acid), Tris (Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane), and combinations 65 thereof. The pH of the buffer solution used as the washing liquid changes depending on the target protein, but generally

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it is preferably in the range of pH 3 to pH 10, and particularly preferably in the range of pH 4 to pH 8. In addition, the buffer solution used as the washing liquid, if necessary, may contain an additive, including, for example, salts such as sodium chloride, sodium sulfate, and potassium chloride for adjusting ionic strength of the buffer solution, amino acids such as glycine, histidine, and arginine, chaotropic agents such as urea, alcohols such as ethanol, mannitol, glycerol, and benzyl alcohol, carbohydrates such as sucrose, maltose, trehalose, and fructose.

In the step of eluting the target protein adsorbed to the adsorbent of the present embodiment, the target protein is dissociated from the adsorbent with a suitable eluate and recovered in a suitable container. The eluate may be any buffer solution having adjusted pH of the conditions under which the target protein is eluted and not denatured. The pH of the buffer solution used as the eluate changes depending on the target protein, but generally it is preferably in the range of pH 2 to pH 11, particularly preferably in the range of pH 2.5 to pH 6. When the adsorbent of the present embodiment is the adsorbent obtained by immobilizing to the solid phase the Fc binding protein including the amino acid sequence described in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 114, 118, 130, 134, 148, 154, 164, 170, 174, and 176, the pH of the buffer solution used as the eluate is in the range of pH 3.0 to pH 4.5. In addition, the buffer solution used as the eluate, if necessary, may contain an additive, including, for example, surfactants, salts, and carbohydrates for stabilizing the target protein.

The target protein isolated and purified using the adsorbent of the present embodiment can also be further highly purified by column chromatography. Exemplary chromatographies to be used include ion exchange chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, gel filtration chromatography, and hydroxyapatite chromatography.

EXAMPLES

Although the following provides a detailed explanation of the present invention with reference to Examples, the present invention is not limited to these Examples.

Example 1

Cloning of Polynucleotide Encoding Human Fc Receptor FcγRI

- (1) An amino acid sequence of a human Fc receptor Fc γ RI described in SEQ ID NO: 1 in an extracellular region, a cell transmembrane region, and an intracellular region (region at positions 16 to 374) was converted using an *E. coli* codon into a nucleotide sequence.
- (2) Based on the nucleotide sequence, 52 types of oligonucleotides were synthesized to produce a polynucleotide encoding the human Fc γ RI. The synthesized oligonucleotides are shown in SEQ ID NOs: 10 to 61.
- (3) Two-step PCR described below was carried out to produce a full-length polynucleotide encoding the human FcγRI from the oligonucleotide synthesized in (2).
- (3-1) A first PCR was carried out by heating for 5 minutes at 94° C., carrying out 25 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 94° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 62° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C. using a reaction solution shown in Table 1.

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Composition	Volume
10 × Pyrobest buffer(Takara Bio) 2.5 mM dNTPs DNA mixture 5 U/µL Pyrobest (Takara Bio) H ₂ O	5 μL 5 μL 1 μL 0.5 μL 38.5 μL

A DNA mixture described in Table 1 represents a solution $_{10}$ obtained by weighting each of 52 types of 50 pmol/µL synthesized oligonucleotides in the same amount and mixing them.

(3-2) A second PCR was carried out by heating for 5 minutes at 94° C., carrying out 25 cycles consisting of 30 ¹⁵ seconds at 94° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 65° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C. using a reaction solution shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Composition	Volume
10 × Pyrobest buffer (Takara Bio)	5 μL
2.5 mM dNTPs	5 μL
10 pmol/μL Oligonucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 61	2 μL
10 pmol/μL Oligonucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 10	2 μL
PCR reaction solution in first step	1 μL
Pyrobest (Takara Bio)	0.5 μL
H ₂ O	34.5 μL

Among a composition shown in Table 2, a polynucleotide in the first PCR solution was used as a template. Further, an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 10 (5'-ATGTGGTTTCTGACCACGCTGTTGCTGTGGGT- 35 GCCGGT-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 61 (5'-GGTCGCGCCCTGCG-GCTCCTTACGATGCAC-3') were used as PCR primers. After completion of the reaction, a product was subjected to 0.9% agarose gel electrophoresis, and DNA band with a designed size (about 1.1 kbp) was confirmed.

- (4) The DNA band was extracted (by QIAquick Gel extraction kit, QIAGEN), the 5'-terminal of the extracted DNA was phosphorylated (by TaKaRa BKL Kit, Takara Bio), and the DNA was inserted in a pUC19 plasmid vector digested with a restriction enzyme SmaI.
- (5) E. coli strain JM109 (TakaraBio) was transformed with the plasmid vector prepared in (4).
- (6) A plasmid was extracted from the transformant in accordance with ordinary methods (by QIAprep Spin Miniprep kit, QIAGEN) to obtain a plasmid pUCFcR. The outline of a structure is shown in FIG. 2.

Example 2

Production of Expression Vector of Fc Binding Protein

A system using MalE signal peptide (amino acid 60 sequence; MKIKTGARILALSALTTMMFSASALA, SEQ ID NO: 182) was constructed to express an Fc binding protein in *E. coli*. The outline of a production process is shown in FIG. 3.

(1) Oligonucleotides shown below were ligated by the 65 PCR method in order to produce a polynucleotide encoding the MalE signal peptide.

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An oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 62 (5'-TATA[CATATG]AAAATAAAAACAGGTG-CACGCATCC-3'; bases in square brackets represent a restriction enzyme NdeI site)

An oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 63 (5'-GCATTAACGACGATGATGTTTTCCGC-CTCGGCTCTCGCC-3')

An oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 64 (5'-ATCGTCGTTAATGCGGATAATGCGAGGAT-GCGTGCACCTG-3')

An oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 65 (5'-TTGTC[CCATGG]CTTCTTCGATTTTGGC-GAGAGCCG-3'; bases in square brackets represent a restriction enzyme NcoI site)

A PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using a reaction solution shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Composition	Concentration/Volume
Oligonucleotides	Each 2.5 mM
2.5 U/µL PrimeSTAR HS (Takara Bio)	0.5 μL
5 × PrimeSTAR buffer (Takara Bio)	10 μL
2.5 mM dNTPs	4 μL
H ₂ O	up to 50 μL

(2) The PCR was carried out using the PCR product obtained in (1) as a template to produce a polynucleotide encoding the MalE signal peptide. In the PCR, the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 62 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 65 were used as PCR primers. Further, the PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using a reaction solution shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

Composition	Volume
Template DNA	Proper quantity
10 pmol/μL PCR Primers	Each 2 μL
2.5 U/µL PrimeSTAR HS (Takara Bio)	0.5 μL
5 × PrimeSTAR buffer (Takara Bio)	10 μL
dNTPS	4 μL
H_2O	up to 50 μL

- 50 (3) The polynucleotide encoding the MalE signal peptide produced in (2) was digested with restriction enzymes NdeI and NcoI. This product was ligated into pET26b(+) plasmid vector (Novagen) digested with the restriction enzymes NdeI and NcoI, and *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was trans55 formed by a heat-shock method.
 - (4) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. Subsequently, plasmid DNA was extracted from the cultured transformant to prepare a plasmid pETMalE. The outline of a structure is shown in FIG. 4.
 - (5) A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide containing an Fc binding protein was produced by the PCR using pUCFcR (FIG. 2) produced in Example 1 as a template. In the PCR reaction, oligonucleotides described below were each used as a PCR primer.

An oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 66 (5'-TCAG[CCATGG]GACAAGTAGATACCAC-

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CAAAGCTGTGATTA-3'; bases in square brackets represent a restriction enzyme NcoI site)

Further, the PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4.

- (6) The polynucleotide obtained in (5) was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and ligated into the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, and *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed by the heat-shock method.
- (7) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. Plasmid DNA was extracted from cultured bacteria cells (transformant), to 20 prepare a plasmid pETFcR in which a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein was inserted. The outline of a structure thereof is shown in FIG. 5.

Example 3

Analysis of Nucleotide Sequence

The sequences of the polynucleotides inserted in pUCFcR (FIG. 2) produced in Example 1 and pETFcR (FIG. 5) 30 produced in Example 2 were subjected to a cycle sequencing reaction using a Big Dye Terminator Cycle Sequencing FS read Reaction kit (PE Applied Biosystems) on the basis of a chain termination method, and analyzed using a fully automated DNA sequencer ABI Prism 3700 DNA analyzer (PE Applied Biosystems). Further, an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 (5'-TAATACGACT-CACTATAGGG-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 (5'-TATGCTAGTTAT-TGCTCAG-3') were used as primers for sequencing.

From results of the analysis, the sequences of the polynucleotides inserted in pUCFcR and pETFcR were confirmed to be as designed. The sequence of the polynucleotide inserted in pUCFcR is shown in SEQ ID NO: 70, and an amino acid sequence of an Fc binding protein translated 45 from the polynucleotide is shown in SEQ ID NO: 71. Further, the sequence of the polynucleotide inserted in pETFcR is shown in SEQ ID NO: 72, and an amino acid sequence of an Fc binding protein translated from the polynucleotide is shown in SEQ ID NO: 73.

Example 4

Preparation of Fc Binding Protein and Measurement of Antibody Binding Activity

- (1) *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) transformed with pETFcR (FIG. **5**) was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin (at 37° C. for 18 hours). And then the culture broth was inoculated into a fresh LB medium containing 60 prepared 50 μg/mL of kanamycin.
- (2) When the turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm) of the culture broth reached 0.5, the culture temperature was changed into 20° C. and the culture broth was cultured for 30 minutes. Thereafter, IPTG was added to the culture broth 65 so as to have a concentration of 0.01 mM and was cultured (at 20° C. for 18 hours).

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- (3) After completion of the culturing, bacterial cells were recovered by centrifugal separation, and a protein was prepared from the cells using a BugBuster Protein extraction kit (Takara Bio).
- (4) The antibody binding activity of the prepared protein was evaluated by an ELISA method described below.
- (4-1) A γ -globulin formulation (KAKETSUKEN) that was a human antibody was immobilized in wells of a 96-well microplate (at 4° C. for 18 hours) in a concentration of 1 μ g/well. After completion of the immobilization, the well was blocked with Starting Block Blocking Buffers (PIERCE).
- (4-2) The well was washed with a wash buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 0.2% (w/v) Tween 20 and 150 mM NaCl), and a prepared protein extract was appropriately diluted with 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) and reacted with the immobilized γ -globulin (at 30° C. for 2 hours).
- (4-3) After completion of the reaction, the resultant was washed with the wash buffer again, and a Horse radish Peroxidase (HRP) labeled anti-His-Tag antibody reagent (BETHYL) was added.
- (4-4) After a reaction at 30° C. for 2 hours, the resultant was washed with the wash buffer, and TMB Peroxidase Substrate (KPL) was added thereto. The absorbance at 450 nm of the mixture was measured.

The measurement results are shown in FIG. **6**. In FIG. **6**, an x axis (horizontal axis) represents the dilution rate of a sample and a y axis (vertical axis) represents absorbance at 450 nm (unit is optional). The antibody binding activity can be confirmed on the basis of the absorbance. As shown in FIG. **6**, as the concentration of a soluble protein extract obtained from the transformant is increased (the dilution rate is decreased), the absorbance is increased. Namely, the transformant obtained by transforming *E. coli* by pETFcR (FIG. **5**) that is a recombinant plasmid can be confirmed to express an Fc binding protein.

Example 5

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein and Production of Library

(1) A mutation was randomly introduced into a polynucleotide site encoding the Fc binding protein by the error-prone PCR. A reaction solution composition in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 5.

TABLE 5

Composition	Concentration
Template DNA (pETFcR)	0.05 ng/μL
PCR primer (SEQ ID NO: 66)	0.4 μM
PCR primer (SEQ ID NO: 67)	0.4 μM
MnCl ₂	0.4 mM
dATP	0.2 mM
dGTP	0.2 mM
dCTP	1 mM
dTTP	1 mM
Buffer (Adjust MnCl ₂ to 5 mM)	× 1
GoTaq polymerase (Promega K.K.)	0.05 U/μL
H ₂ O	up to 50 μL

A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C. The mutation was introduced well into the

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polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein by the error-prone PCR, and the average mutation introduction rate was 0.14%.

- (2) The PCR product obtained in (1) was purified, digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and 5 inserted in pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the same restriction enzymes and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction.
- (3) After completion of the reaction, a reaction solution was introduced into the cells of $E.\ coli$ strain JM109 by an 10 electroporation method. The cells were cultured on LB agar plates containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin (at 37° C. for 18 hours).

After the culturing, about 50,000 colonies were formed on the plates. Plasmid DNA was extracted from mixed colonies 15 obtained by mixing the colonies to obtain a plasmid library.

Example 6

Screening of Fc Binding Protein with Improved Stability

- (1) $E.\ coli$ strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the plasmid library produced in Example 5.
- (2) The transformant obtained in (1) was inoculated into $25\,200\,\mu\text{L}$ of 2YT broth medium (16 g/L Tryptone, 10 g/L Yeast extract, and 5 g/L NaCl) containing 50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 30° C. overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, 50 μ L of culture broth was 30 subcultured into 500 μ L of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
- (4) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by 35 centrifugation was diluted with 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) five times, and the antibody binding activity was measured by the ELISA method described in Example 4(4). The culture supernatant was heated for 10 minutes at 43° C., and the antibody binding activity was measured by the 40 ELISA method in the same manner. About 2,500 transformants were evaluated. A transformant expressing an Fc binding protein having improved thermal stability in comparison with the Fc binding protein expressed in the transformant by pETFcR was obtained.
- (5) A plasmid was prepared from a transformant expressing an Fc binding protein with improved thermal stability or increased expression amount. The sequence of a polynucle-otide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed to identify mutation sites of 50 the amino acid.

From results of analysis of nucleotide sequence, sites of amino acid substitution in the Fc binding protein with improved thermal stability or increased expression amount are as follows.

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Thr38Ala, Thr38Ser, Leu46Arg, Leu46Pro, Ala62Val, Thr63Ile, Ser69Phe, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Asp94Glu, Ile100Val, Ser110Asn, 60 His125Arg, Leu131Arg, Phe114Leu, Leu131Pro, Trp149Leu, Leu156Pro, Ile160Met, Asn163Ser, Asn195Thr, Asn206Ser, Asn206Thr, Thr199Ser, Asn206Lys, Leu207Pro, Leu218Val, Asn240Asp, Leu248Ser, Leu283His, or Leu285Gln was caused. The residual rate 65 (remaining activity) of antibody binding activity after heating and results of analysis of the amino acid substitutions are

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shown in Table 6. Table 6 reveals that when an Fc binding protein is subjected to amino acid substitution (mutation), the Fc binding protein has improved thermal stability.

TABLE 6

Example 7

Production of Amino Acid-Substituted Fc Binding Protein

Amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of a structure of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 6 were integrated and the stability was tried to be further improved. The integration of substituted amino acids was carried out mainly by the PCR method, and 4 types of Fc binding proteins shown below were produced.

- (a) FcRm4 with four amino acid substitutions
- (b) FcRm6 with six amino acid substitutions obtained by substituting two amino acids of FcRm4 with amino acids (c) FcRm8 with eight amino acid substitutions obtained by substituting two amino acids of FcRm6 with amino acids (d) FcRm19 with 19 amino acid substitutions obtained by substituting 11 amino acids of FcRm8 with amino acids
- Hereinafter, a method for producing each Fc binding protein will be described in detail.

(a) FcRm4

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 6, Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Phe114Leu, and Asn240Asp were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated in a wild-type Fc binding protein (Fc binding protein with no

amino acid substitution) to produce FcRm4. The integration of the amino acid substitutions shown as Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Phe114Leu, and Asn240Asp was carried out using the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein inserted in pETFcR of the transformant expressing each amino ⁵ acid-substituted Fc binding protein which was obtained by screening.

(a-1) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein with the substitution shown as Leu46Pro which had been obtained by screening. In the PCR, the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 74 (5'-AGGAACCATTGGGTT-GAACTTGACCCA-3') were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4.

(a-2) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein with Thr63Ile which had been obtained by screening. This PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (a-1) except that an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 75 (5'-TGGGTCAAGT-TCAACCCAATGGTTCCT-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 76 (5'-AGCAGC-CAGCCACGATGAATTTCAAGTTGTATCGGATCGC-3') were used as PCR primers.

(a-3) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein with substitution shown as Phe114Leu which had been obtained by screening. This PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (a-1) except 35 that an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 77 (5'-GTGGCCTGAGCGGCCGTAGCGATCCGATACAACTTGAAAT-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 78 (5'-CCGCGCAGGGTTTTGCTGCCCATATAGAACGAGAAATACA-3') 40 were used as PCR primers.

(a-4) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein with Asn240Asp which had been obtained by screening. This PCR was carried out in the same 45 manner as in (a-1) except that an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 79 (5'-CGTCCCGGCCT-GCAGCTGTATTTCTCGTTCTATATGGGCA-3') and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers.

(a-5) Four types of PCR products obtained in (a-1), (a-2), (a-3), and (a-4) were purified. The purified PCR products were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated.

TABLE 7

Composition	Concentration/Volume
PCR product 2.5 U/μL PrimeSTAR HS (Takara Bio) 5 × PrimeSTAR buffer (Takara Bio) 2.5 mM dNTPs H ₂ O	Each equimolar 0.5 μL 10 μL 4 μL up to 50 μL

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(a-6) The PCR was carried out using the PCR product obtained in (a-5) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. Thus, a polynucleotide encoding FcRm4 with four amino acid substitutions was produced.

(a-7) The polynucleotide obtained in (a-6) was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.

(a-8) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm4 containing the polynucleotide
 encoding polypeptide FcRm4 in which four amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids

(a-9) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm4 was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm4 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm4 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 6. In SEQ ID NO: 2, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm4 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 2, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, and aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258.

(b) FcRm6

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From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved 40 stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 6, Thr38Ser, Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, and Asn240Asp were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated in a wild-type Fc binding protein to produce FcRm6. Specifically, nucleotide sequence substitutions causing the produced plasmid pETFcRm4 to amino acid substitutions of Thr38Ser and Ile100Val were carried out to integrate Thr38Ser and Ile100Val in the pETFcRm4. The nucleotide sequence substitution causing the amino acid substitution of Thr38Ser was carried out using an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 80 (5'-TGCAACGTCACGGATTCTTCCTGGAA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 81 (5'-TTCCAGGAAGAATCCGTGACGTTGCA-3'). Further, the nucleotide sequence substitution causing the amino acid substitution of Ile100Val was carried out using an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 82 (5'-CAGCCAGCCACGATGAACTTCAAGTT-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 83 (5'-AACTTGAAGTTCATCGTGGCTGGCTG-3').

(b-1) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm4 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 80 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4.

(b-2) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm4 as a template. This PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (b-1) except that the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 81 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 82 were 5 used as PCR primers.

(b-3) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm4 as a template. This PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (b-1) except that the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 83 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers.

(b-4) Three types of the PCR products obtained in (b-1), (b-2), and (b-3) were purified. The purified PCR products were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting 15 of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated.

(b-5) The PCR was carried out using the PCR product 20 obtained in (b-4) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 25 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. Thus, a polynucleotide encoding FcRm6 with six amino acid substitutions was produced.

(b-6) The polynucleotide obtained in (b-5) was digested 30 with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.

(b-7) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB 35 medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from cultured bacteria cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm6 containing the polynucleotide encoding polypeptide FcRm6 in which six amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino 40 acids.

(b-8) The sequence of pETFcRm6 was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm6 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 45 3, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm6 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 7. In SEQ ID NO: 3, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid 50 sequence of FcRm6 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 3, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, valine of 55 Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, and aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258.

(c) FcRm8

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved 60 stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 6, Thr38Ser, Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Ile160Met, Asn163Ser, and Asn240Asp were selected. The selected substitutions were accumulated in a wild-type Fc binding protein to produce FcRm8. Specifically, nucleotide 65 sequence substitutions causing amino acid substitutions of Ile160Met and Asn163Ser in the produced plasmid pET-

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FcRm6 were carried out to integrate Ile160Met and Asn163Ser in the pETFcRm6. The nucleotide sequence substitutions causing the amino acid substitutions of Ile160Met and Asn163Ser were carried out using the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 84 (5'-TACGTCCCGCTGTGGGACATGTTCGTCTTCAGA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 85 (5'-TCTGAAGACGAACATGTCCCACA-GCGGGACGTA-3').

(c-1) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm6 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 84 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4.

(c-2) The PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (c-1) using the plasmid pETFcRm6 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 85 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers.

(c-3) Two types of the PCR products obtained in (c-1) and (b-2) were purified. The purified PCR products were mixed, the PCR was carried out for a reaction cycle consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated.

(c-4) The PCR was carried out using the PCR product obtained in (c-3) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. Thus, a polynucleotide encoding FcRm8 with eight amino acid substitutions was produced.

(c-5) The polynucleotide obtained in (c-4) was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.

(c-6) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from cultured bacteria cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm8 containing the polynucleotide encoding polypeptide FcRm8 in which eight amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.

(c-7) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm8 was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm8 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 4, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm8 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 8. In SEQ ID NO: 4, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm8 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 4, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, methionine of Ile160Met is at position 178,

serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, and aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258.

(d) FcRm19

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 6, Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Thr38Ser, Leu46Pro, Thr63Ile, Ser69Thr. Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Ile100Val, Phe114Leu, Ile160Met, Asn163Ser, Asn195Thr, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Asn240Asp, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated in a wild-type Fc binding protein to produce FcRm19.

Specifically, nucleotide sequence substitutions causing the produced plasmid pETFcRm8 to amino acid substitutions of Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Asn195Thr, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln were carried out. Due to the nucleotide sequence substitutions, Thr20Pro, Thr25Lys, Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, Asn78Asp, Asn195Thr, Asn206Thr, Leu207Pro, Leu283His, and Leu285Gln were 20 integrated in the pETFcRm8.

Further, the nucleotide sequence substitution causing two amino acid substitutions of Thr20Pro and Thr25Lys was carried out using an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 86 (5'-TGCAGCTTAATCACA- 25 GCTTTGGGGGTAT-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 87 (5'-ATAC-CCCCAAAGCTGTGATTAAGCTGCA-3'). The nucleotide sequence substitution causing four amino acid substitutions of Ser69Thr, Arg71His, Val77Glu, and Asn78Asp was car- 30 ried out using an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 88 (5'-CGCTCGCGGAGGTAATGTGG-TAAGTCGGGGT-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 89 (5'-ATTACCTCCGC-GAGCGAAGACGATTCG-T).

The nucleotide sequence substitution causing three amino acid substitutions of Asn195Thr, Asn206Thr, and Leu207Pro was carried out using an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 90 (5'-TCAAGCAoligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 91 (5'-ACAAGCCCGCTGCTTGAAGGCACTCCGGTGA-

The nucleotide sequence substitution causing two amino acid substitutions of Leu283His and Leu285Gln was carried 45 out using an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 92 (5'-TCGGCTGTTGATGACCCAGCACT-TGCAA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 93 (5'-TTGCAAGTGCTGGGTCAT-CAACAGCCGA-3').

- (d-1) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm8 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 86 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting 55 of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4.
- (d-2) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm8 as a template. This PCR was carried out in the same 60 manner as in (d-1) except that the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 87 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 88 were used as PCR primers.
- (d-3) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET- 65 FcRm8 as a template. This PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (d-1) except that the oligonucleotide including

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the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 89 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 90 were used as PCR primers.

- (d-4) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm8 as a template. This PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (d-1) except that the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 91 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 92 were used as PCR primers.
- (d-5) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm8 as a template. This PCR was carried out in the same manner as in (d-1) except that the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 93 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers.
- (d-6) Five types of PCR products obtained in (d-1), (d-2), (d-3), (d-4), and (d-5) were purified.

The purified PCR products were mixed, the PCR was carried out for a reaction cycle consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated.

- (d-7) The PCR was carried out using the PCR product obtained in (d-6) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. Thus, a polynucleotide encoding FcRm19 with 19 amino acid substitutions was produced.
- (d-8) The polynucleotide obtained in (d-7) was digested 35 with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the plasmid DNA pETMalE digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII. E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (d-9) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB GCGGGCTTGTCACACTCGCAGTCAGCA-T) and an 40 medium containing 50 µg/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from cultured bacteria cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm19 containing the polynucleotide encoding polypeptide FcRm19 in which 19 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.
 - (d-10) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm19 was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm19 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 5, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm19 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 9. In SEQ ID NO: 5, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm19 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. In SEQ ID NO: 5, proline of Thr20Pro is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, methionine of Ile160Met is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, threonine of Asn206Thr is at

position 224, proline of Leu207Pro is at position 225, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303.

Example 8

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Proteins Accumulating Amino Acid Substitution

- (1) Each of the transformants obtained in Examples 2 and 7 was inoculated into 2YT broth medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. The precultures were carried out by shake-culturing at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) Each of preculture broths was inoculated into 2YT 15 broth medium containing 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin, followed by shake-culturing at 37° C. After 1.5 hours from the starting of the culturing, the culture temperature was changed to 20° C. followed by shake-culturing for 30 minutes. IPTG was added so that the final concentration was 0.01 mM, followed 20 by shake-culturing at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) Soluble proteins were extracted from the cultured bacterial cells, and each protein concentration of the extracted Fc binding protein was measured using human Fc γ RI in the known concentration as a control by the ELISA 25 method described in Example 4.
- FIG. 7 shows a result of comparison of productivities of Fc binding proteins expressed by the transformants produced in Examples 2 and 7 as the production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density 30 at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture broth. FcR in FIG. 7 shows a (wild-type) Fc binding protein with no amino acid substitution expressed by the transformant in Example 2. The FcRm4, FcRm6, FcRm8, and FcRm19 that were Fc binding proteins expressed by the transformants produced in 35 Example 7 were confirmed to have higher productivity than this Fc binding protein. The result in FIG. 7 reveals that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability.

Example 9

Production of Fc Binding Protein

- (1) Each of the transformants produced in Examples 2 and 7 was precultured in the same manner as in Example 8.
- (2) Each of preculture broths was inoculated into 2YT broth medium containing 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin followed by shake-culturing at 37° C.
- (3) When the turbidity (OD600) of each of the culture broth was from 1.5 to 2.0, the culture broth was cooled to 15° C., and 0.1 mM IPTG was added, followed by shake-culturing at 15° C. overnight.
- (4) After completion of culturing, each of the bacterial 55 cells obtained by centrifugal separation was suspended in 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 150 mM NaCl and 0.1 mM PMSF (phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride), and disintegrated by ultrasonic waves with cooling to 6° C. Centrifugation separation was carried out to recover each superna-60 tant.
- (5) From each of the recovered supernatants, an Fc binding protein was purified by a method described below.
- (5-1) Imidazole was added to each of the recovered supernatants so that the final concentration was 10 mM, and 65 was applied to a nickel chelate column equilibrated by a 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 150 mM NaCl

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precedently (His•Bind Resin: Novagen). The column was then washed with the 20 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 150 mM NaCl, and an Fc binding protein was eluted with PBS (137 mM NaCl, 8.10 mM disodium hydrogen phosphate, 2.68 mM potassium chloride, 1.47 mM potassium hydrogen phosphate) (pH 7.0) containing 500 mM imidazole.

(5-2) The elute containing the Fc binding protein obtained in (5-1) was applied to IgG Sepharose (registered trademark) 6 Fast Flow (GE Healthcare Biosciences, hereinafter referred to as FF) equilibrated by PBS (pH 7.0) in advance. Subsequently, FF was washed with PBS (pH 7.0), and an Fc binding protein was eluted in 20 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) containing 150 mM NaCl and 10% glycerol. Herein, the elution was carried out in a container charging a 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) in a volume equal to ½ of the eluted volume.

Example 10

Evaluation of Thermal Stability of Fc Binding Protein

The purified solution of each Fc binding protein was dialyzed using PBS (pH 7.0) at 4° C., and the transition midpoint (Tm) was measured by a differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) (VP capillary DSC platform, Nihon SiberHegner) under conditions of a temperature increasing rate of 60° C./hour. The results are shown in Table 8.

TABLE 8

5	Fc binding protein	Transition midpoint (Tm)(° C.)
)	FcR FcRm4 FcRm6 FcRm8 FcRm19	48.5 56.0 60.4 60.2 65.6

FcR in Table 8 shows a wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 2. The FcRm4, FcRm6, FcRm8, and FcRm19 that were the Fc binding proteins expressed by the transformant produced in Example 7 were confirmed to have increased Tm and improved thermal stability in comparison with this Fc binding protein. Further, the thermal stability of the Fc binding protein was improved by integration of amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability.

Example 11

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm8) and Production of Library

(1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm8 produced in Example 7(c) by the error-prone PCR. A reaction solution composition in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid pETFcRm8 described in Example 7(c) was used as a template DNA and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 66 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 67 were used as PCR primers.

TABLE 9

Composition	Concentration
Template DNA	0.05 ng/μL
Each PCR primer	0.4 μM
MnCl ₂	0.4 mM
dATP	0.2 mM
dGTP	0.2 mM
dCTP	1 mM
dTTP	1 mM
Buffer (Adjust MnCl ₂ to 5 mM)	× 1
GoTaq polymerase (Promega K.K.)	0.05 U/μL
H_2O	up to 50 μL

A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in 15 the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C.

- (2) The PCR product obtained in (1) was purified, digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction.
- (3) After completion of the reaction, the cells of *E. coli* strain JM109 were transformed using the obtained ligation product by the electroporation method, and were cultured on LB agar plates containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin (at 37° C. for 18 hours). After the culturing, about 4,000 colonies were formed on the plates. Plasmid DNA was extracted from mixed colonies obtained by mixing the colonies to obtain an FcRm8 random mutation plasmid library.
- (4) *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the plasmid library produced in (3), and colonies were formed in LB agar medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. 35 Thereby, an FcRm8 random mutation transformant library was produced.

Example 12

Screening of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm8) Library

- (1) The FcRm8 random mutation transformant library produced in Example 11 was inoculated into 200 μ L of an LB broth medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin, and 45 was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 5 μ l of culture broth was subcultured into 500 μ L of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin), and 50 was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water ten times, and the diluted supernatant and a 0.1 M glycine-sodium hydroxide 55 buffer (pH 10.0) were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was heated at 53° C. for 20 minutes, and neutralized with a 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0).
- (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were 60 measured by the ELISA method described below.
- (4-1) A γ -globulin formulation (KAKETSUKEN) that was a human antibody was immobilized in wells of a 96-well microplate (at 4° C. for 18 hours) in a concentration of 1 μ g/well. After completion of the immobilization, the 65 well was blocked with a 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 2% (w/v) skim milk.

- (4-2) The γ -globulin was washed with a wash buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) containing 0.2% (w/v) Tween 20 and 150 mM NaCl), and a prepared protein extract was appropriately diluted with 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) and reacted with the immobilized γ -globulin (at 30° C. for 1 hour).
- (4-3) After completion of the reaction, the resultant was washed with the wash buffer, and a Horse radish Peroxidase (HRP) labeled anti-His-Tag antibody reagent (BETHYL) was added.
 - (4-4) After a reaction at 30° C. for 1 hour, the resultant was washed with the wash buffer, and TMB Peroxidase Substrate (KPL) was added. The absorbance at 450 nm of the mixture was measured.
 - (5) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins heated (at 53° C. for 20 minutes) was divided by the antibody binding activities of unheated Fc binding proteins to obtain percentages of remaining activity.
- (6) A plasmid was prepared from a transformant expressing an Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm8. The sequence of a polynucleotide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed through the method described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm8.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequence, the substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm8 are as follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm8 is not included.)

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, a substitution shown as Thr20Ile, Glu36Gly, Glu44Asp, Val45Ala, Pro49Ser, Gly60Asp, Thr63Leu, Thr65Ala, Ser66Thr, Ser69Thr, Thr73Ala, Val77Glu, Asn78Ser, Arg102Ser, His125Arg, Leu131Pro, Tyr133His, Arg139His, Lys142Glu, Phe147Ser, His148Arg, His148Gln, Trp149Arg, Asn152Ile, Asn152Thr, Leu156His, Leu156Pro, Ile160Thr, Ile160Val, Ile160Leu, Met171Thr, 40 Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Leu203His, Asn206Ser, Leu207Gln, Gln219Pro, Leu225Gln, Met231Lys, Arg251Ser, Leu257Arg, Leu257Gln, Gly282Asp, Leu285Gln, Leu285Arg, or Val289Asp was caused. The residual rate (remaining activity) of antibody binding activity after heating and results of analysis of the amino acid substitutions are shown in Table 10. Table 10 reveals that when the FcRm8 is further subjected to the amino acid substitution, the Fc binding protein has improved stability.

TABLE 10

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Glu36Gly	66.4
Glu44Asp	34.0
Pro49Ser	30.7
Ala62Val	27.5
Thr63Leu	54.7
Gln64Lys	24.0
Thr65Ala	55.9
Ser66Thr	30.8
Ser69Thr	49.5
Thr73Ala	41.7
Val77Glu	55.9
Asn78Ser	43.3
Arg102Ser	44.0
Val109Ala	16.8
Leu131Pro	40.1
Tyr133His	36.1

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TABLE 10-continued

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Lys142Glu	39.2
Phe147Ser	38.9
His148Gln	44.2
Trp149Arg	63.9
Asn152Ile	56.5
Leu156His	49.5
Leu156Pro	33.6
Ile160Thr	54.3
Ile160Val	39.0
Met171Thr	37.4
Leu203Pro	28.4
Leu203His	77.3
Asn206Ser	33.8
Leu207Gln	37.8
Gln219Pro	40.3
Leu225Gln	45.5
Ser228Thr	28.7
Gln244Arg	28.8
Arg252His	24.8
Leu257Arg	46.3
Leu257Gln	46.7
Pro274Gln	28.2
Gly282Asp	40.3
Leu285Gln	70.2
Leu285Arg	37.3
Val289Asp	36.6
Thr20Ile, Met231Lys	56.1
Gly60Asp, Arg139His	59.7
His125Arg, Met171Thr	35.4
His148Arg, Arg251Ser	61.7
Trp149Arg, Asn152Thr	68.2
Ile181Thr, Leu285Gln	85.1
Val45Ala, Ile160Leu, Lys173Arg	98.9
FcRm8	30.6

Example 13

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 12, 40 Glu36Gly, Val45Ala, Pro49Ser, Gly60Asp, Thr65Ala, Tyr133His, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Leu156Pro, Ile160Thr, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Leu203His, Leu207Gln, and Met231Lys that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The substitutions were 45 integrated with respect to the FcRm19 described in Example 7(d) to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm32 in which 32 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, the amino acid substitutions shown as Glu36Gly, 50 Val45Ala, Pro49Ser, Gly60Asp, Thr65Ala, Tyr133His, Arg139His, Trp149Arg, Leu156Pro, Ile160Thr, Lys173Arg, Ile181Thr, Leu203His, Leu207Gln, and Met231Lys were carried out using oligonucleotides described below.

- (i) amino acid substitution Glu36Gly: an oligonucleotide 55 having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 94 (5'-ACGT-CACGGATTCTCCCTGGAACACGCTCA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 95 (5'-TGAGCGTGTTCCAGGGAGAATCCGTGACGT-3')
- (ii) amino acid substitution Val45Ala: an oligonucleotide 60 having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 96 (5'-AGACA-GATGCGGTGCTTCGCAGTGCAA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 97 (5'-TTGCACTGCGAAGCACCGCATCTGTCT-3')
- (iii) amino acid substitution Pro49Ser: an oligonucleotide 65 having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 98 (5'-AACTT-GACCCAGACAGATGCGGTACTT-3') and an oligonucle-

otide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 99 (5'-AAGTACCGCATCTGTCTGGGTCAAGTT-3')

(iv) amino acid substitutions Gly60Asp and Thr65Ala: an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 100 (5'-GGGTGGAGGCCTGGATCGCGGTGTCATTCA-GGA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 101 (5'-TCCTGAATGACACCGCGATCCA-GGCCTOCACCC-3')

(v) amino acid substitutions Tyr133His and Arg139His: an
 10 oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:
 102 (5'-TTGTGGTAGTAAAGCACGTTGTGCACCA-GCTT-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 103 (5'-TGCACAACGTGCTTTACTAC-CACAACGGCAA-3')

(vi) amino acid substitution Trp149Arg: an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 104 (5'-AGGTTGGAGTTCCGGTGGAAGAACTTAA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 105 (5'-TTAAGTTCTTCCACCGGAACTCCAACCT-3')

20 (viii) amino acid substitutions Leu156Pro and Ile160Thr: an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 106 (5'-TGTGGGACGTGTTCGTCTTCGGAATGGTCA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 107 (5'-TGACCATTCCGAAGACGAACACGTC-25 CCACA-3')

(ix) amino acid substitution Lys173Arg: an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 108 (5'-TCCCGC-CGACGTATAACGATGTCTGCCCAT-3')

- (x) amino acid substitution Ile181Thr: an oligonucleotide
 having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 109 (5'-ACATCGTTATACGTCGGCGGGAACCTCGGTCA-3')
 (xi) amino acid substitutions Leu203His and Leu207Gln: an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 110 (5'-AGGGTCACCTGAGTGCCTTCATGCAGCGG-35 3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 111 (5'-CCGCTGCATGAAGGCACTCAGGT-GACCCT-3')
 - (xii) amino acid substitution Met231Lys: an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 112 (5'-CGCA-GGGTTTTGCTGCCCTTATAGAACGA-3') and an oligonucleotide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 113 (5'-TCGTTCTATAAGGCAGCAAAACCCTGCG-3')
 - (1) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm19 described in Example 7 (d) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 94 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p1.
 - (2) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm19 described in Example 7 (d) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 95 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 106 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p2.
 - (3) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm19 described in Example 7 (d) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 107 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 110 as PCR primers. The PCR was

carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p3.

- (4) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm19 described in Example 7 (d) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 111 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was 10 carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p4.
- (5) Four types of the PCR products m32 μ l, m32p2, m32p3, and m32p4 were purified. The purified m32 μ l, m32p2, m32p3, and m32p4 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 20 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated.
- (6) The PCR was carried out using the PCR product obtained in (5) as a template and the oligonucleotide includ- 25 ing the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers.

The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the 30 second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p5.

- (7) The m32p5 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p5 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 98 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. 40 in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p6.
- (8) The m32p5 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p5 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 99 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 104 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° 50 C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p7.
- (9) The m32p5 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p5 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 105 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p8.
- (10) Three types of the PCR products m32p6, m32p7, and m32p8 were purified. The purified m32p6, m32p7, and m32p8 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds

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at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR reaction was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR reaction was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the to reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p9.

- (11) The m32p9 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p9 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 100 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p10.
- (12) The m32p9 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p9 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 101 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 108 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p11.
- (13) The m32p9 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p9 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 109 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p12.
- (14) Three types of the PCR products, m32p10, m32p11, and m32p12 were purified. The purified m32p10, m32p11, and m32p12 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p13.
- (15) The m32p13 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p13 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 96 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C.

in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p14.

(16) The m32p13 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p13 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 97 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 102 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° 10° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p15.

(17) The m32p13 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p13 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 103 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 112 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° 20 C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p16.

(18) The m32p13 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m32p13 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 113 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. 30 in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m32p17.

(19) Four types of the PCR products, m32p14, m32p15, m32p16, and m32p17 were purified. The purified m32p14, 35 m32p15, m32p16, and m32p17 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were 40 ligated.

(20) The PCR was carried out using the PCR product obtained in (19) as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID 45 NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4.

(21) The PCR product obtained in (20) was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein FcRm32 in which 32 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.

(22) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm32 was 55 digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.

(23) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing $50 \,\mu\text{g/mL}$ of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm32 containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm32.

(24) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm32 was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

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The amino acid sequence of FcRm32 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 114, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm32 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 115. In SEQ ID NO: 114, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm32 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 114, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, alanine of Val45Ala is at position 63, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, praline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, histidine of Leu203His is at position 221, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, glutamine of Leu207Gln is at position 225, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303.

Example 14

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32)

- (1) The transformant produced in Example 13 was inoculated into an LB broth medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. The precultures were carried out by shake-culturing at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) A preculture broth was inoculated into an LB broth medium containing 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin followed by shake-culturing at 37° C. After 1.5 hours from the start of culturing, the culture temperature was changed to 20° C. followed by shake-culturing for 30 minutes. IPTG was added so that the final concentration was 0.01 mM followed by shake-culturing at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) After completion of the culturing, bacterial cells were recovered by centrifugal separation, and a protein was prepared from the cells using a BugBuster Protein extraction kit (Takara Bio).
- (4) The antibody binding activity of the prepared protein was evaluated by the ELISA method described in Example 12 (4), and thus the productivity of the Fc binding protein was measured. FIG. 8 shows a result of comparison of productivity of the Fc binding protein as the production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture broth. FcR in FIG. 8 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm19 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 7 (d). FcRm32 that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 13 was confirmed to

have higher productivity than these Fc binding proteins. The result in FIG. 8 reveals that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 15

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32) Against Alkali

- (1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm19 and FcRm32) and a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example
- (2) The proteins used for the concentration measurement were diluted so that the concentration was 5 μg/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 5 minutes.
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of alkali-treated and untreated samples were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (4) The antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated 25 samples were divided by the antibody binding activities of the untreated samples to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.
- FIG. 9 shows a result of comparison of stability against alkali. FcR in FIG. 9 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein 30 expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm19 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 7 (d). As compared to these Fc binding proteins, FcRm32 that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 13 was confirmed to 35 have higher stability against alkali than the FcR and FcRm19. The result in FIG. 9 reveals that the stability of the Fc binding protein against alkali is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 16

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32) and Production of Library

- (1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm32 produced in Example 13 by an error-prone PCR. Reaction solution composition in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid 50 pETFcRm32 described in Example 13 was used as a template DNA and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 66 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 67 were used as PCR 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C.
- (2) The PCR product obtained in (1) was purified, 60 digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction.
- (3) After completion of the reaction, the cells of E. coli 65 strain JM109 were transformed using the resulting ligation product by the electroporation method, and cultured on an

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LB agar plates containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin (at 37° C. for 18 hours). After the culturing, about 19,000 colonies were formed on the plates. Plasmid DNA was extracted from mixed colonies obtained by mixing the colonies to obtain an FcRm32 random mutation plasmid library.

(4) E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the plasmid library produced in (3), and colonies were formed on LB agar medium containing 50 µg/mL of kanamycin. Thus, an FcRm32 random mutation transformant library was 10 produced.

Example 17

Screening of Library of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32) with Improved Stability

- (1) The FcRm32 random mutation transformant library produced in Example 16 was inoculated into 200 µL of an LB broth medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin, and 20 was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C.
 - (2) After the culturing, 5 µL of culture broth was subcultured into 500 μL of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 µg/mL of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
 - (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water ten times, and the diluted supernatant and a 0.1 M glycine-sodium hydroxide buffer (pH 10.0) were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was heated at 70° C. for 20 minutes, and neutralized with a 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0).
 - (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4). The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins heated (at 70° C. for 20 minutes) were divided by the antibody binding activities of unheated Fc binding proteins to obtain percentages of remaining activity.
- (5) A plasmid was prepared from the transformant expressing the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm32. The sequence of a polynucleotide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed through the method 45 described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm32.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequence, positions of substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein areas follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm32 is not included).

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Gln27Pro, Gln35Leu, Leu41Met, Ser51Thr, Ser51Pro, Ser52Gly, Ser53Leu, primers. A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 55 Gly60Gly, Thr63Leu, Gln64Pro, Thr73Ser, Val77Asp, Ser80Ala, Leu89Gln, Arg92Cys, Gln97Leu, Asp129Gly, Leu131Pro, Tyr133Arg, Leu131Gln, Tyr138His, Phe144Ile, His148Arg, Asn152Thr, Lys157Arg, Ser182Thr, Val193Leu, Val198Gly, Ser200Gly, Ser200Arg, Leu207Pro, Leu207His, Ser211Arg, Leu223Arg, Asn240Gly, Gln246Arg, Ala250Val, Thr264Ser, Asn268Ser, Glu277Val, or Thr287Ile was caused. Further, substitution (for example, Gly60Gly) in which specified amino acids are not changed represents that a substituted (mutated) amino acid returns to a wild-type amino acid (same as above). The residual rate (remaining activity) of antibody binding activity after heating and results of analysis of the amino acid

substitutions are shown in Table 11. Table 11 reveals that when the FcRm32 was further substituted with amino acids, the Fc binding protein has improved stability.

TABLE 11

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Gln35Leu	72.1
Leu41Met	63.4
Ser52Gly	77.5
Gln64Arg	10.9
Thr73Ser	38.6
Val77Asp	18.1
Leu89Gln	38.7
Asp129Gly	92.6
Leu131Gln	40.7
Leu131Pro	23.9
Tyr133Arg	63.3
Asn134Ser	33.1
Tyr138His	16.5
Asn152Thr	93.7
Lys157Arg	21.0
Val198Gly	31.4
Ser200Gly	13.1
Leu207Pro	45.6
Asn240Gly	23.8
Ala250Val	28.3
Gln35Leu, Ser51Thr	17.7
Ser51Thr, Thr63Leu	40.0
Gln64Pro, His133Arg	46.5
Gly60Gly, Ser182Thr	18.5
Ser80Ala, Tyr133Arg, Glu277Val	44.7
His148Arg, Asn268Ser	26.4
Ser200Arg, Thr287Ile	56.9
Gln27Pro, Ser51Pro, Arg92Cys	31.1
Gln97Leu, Ser211Arg, Thr264Ser	42.7
Gln35Leu, Asp129Gly, His148Arg, Gln246Arg	50.0
Ser53Leu, Phe144Ile, Val193Leu, Leu207His, Leu223Arg	43.1
FcRm32	11.7

Example 18

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 17, Gln35Leu, Leu41Met, Ser52Gly, and Asn152Thr that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were 45 selected. The substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm32 described in Example 13 to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm36b in which 36 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, an 50 oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID (5'-ATGCGGTGCTTCGCAGTGCATCGT-116 CACGGATTCTCCCAGGAACA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 117 (5'-GACGATGCACTGCGAAGCACCGCATCT-GTCTGGGTCAGGTTCAA-3') were used for amino acid substitutions shown as Gln35Leu, Leu41Met, and Ser52Gly.

(1) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm32 described in Example 13 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID 60 NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 116 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction 65 solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m36 bp1.

- (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid containing the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm32 obtained by screening in Example 17 was subjected to an additional substitution shown as Asn152Thr. The PCR was carried out using the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 117 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 92 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m36 bp2.
- (3) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pET-FcRm32 described in Example 13 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 93 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C.
 20 in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m36 bp3.
- (4) Three types of the PCR products, m36 bp1, m36 bp2, 25 and m36 bp3 were purified. The purified m36 bp1, m36 bp2, and m36 bp3 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition 30 shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The 35 PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° \tilde{C} . in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The resulting PCR product obtained was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein FcRm36b in which 36 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.
 - (5) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm36b was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
 - (6) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing $50 \,\mu\text{g/mL}$ of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm36b containing the polynucle-otide encoding the FcRm36b.
- (7) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm36b was ana-55 lyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm36b plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 118, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm36b is shown in SEQ ID NO: 119. In SEQ ID NO: 118, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm36b is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 118, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is

at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at position 59, alanine of Val45Ala is at position 63, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Asn152Thr is at 15 position 170, proline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, histidine of 20 Leu203His is at position 221, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, glutamine of Leu207Gln is at position 225, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303. 25

Example 19

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b)

The transformants produced in Examples 18 and 2 were prepared in the same manner as in Example 14. The productivities of Fc binding proteins measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4) were compared as the 35 production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture

The results are shown in FIG. 10. FcR in FIG. 10 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transfor- 40 mant in Example 2. FcRm32 in FIG. 10 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 13. The FcRm36b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 18 was confirmed to have higher productivity than these Fc binding proteins. 45 digested with the restriction enzymes Ncol and HindIII, and The results in FIG. 10 reveal that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 20

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b) Against Alkali

- (1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm32 and FcRm36b) and 55 a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example
- (2) The proteins used for the concentration measurement 60 were diluted so that the concentration was 5 μg/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 5 minutes.
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region 65 with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample

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which was not alkali-treated in (2) for comparison were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).

(4) The antibody binding activity of the alkali-treated sample was divided by the antibody binding activity of the sample not alkali-treated to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.

FIG. 11 shows a result of comparison of stability against alkali. FcR in FIG. 11 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm32 in FIG. 11 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 13. The FcRm36b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 18 was confirmed to have higher stability against alkali than the FcR and FcRm32. The results in FIG. 11 reveal that the stability of the Fc binding protein against alkali is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 21

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b) and Production of Library

- (1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm36b produced in Example 18 by the error-prone PCR. The reaction solution composition in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid pETFcRm36b described in Example 18 was used as a template DNA. Further, an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 120 (5'-TCAGC-CATGGGACAAGTAGATACCCCCAAAGCTGTGATTA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 121 (5'-CCAAGCTTAATGATGATGATGAT-GATGGACCGGGGTCGGCTGTTGATGACCCAG-3') were used as PCR primers. A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72°
- (2) The PCR product obtained in (1) was purified, inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction.
- (3) After completion of the reaction, E. coli strain BL21 50 (DE3) was transformed using the resulting ligation product by the electroporation method, and cultured in LB agar medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin to form colonies. Thus, an FcRm36b random mutation transformant library was produced.

Example 22

Screening of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b) Library

- (1) The FcRm36b random mutation transformant library produced in Example 21 was inoculated into 200 μL of an LB broth medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 5 μL of culture broth was subcultured into 500 µL of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05

mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.

- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water five times, and the diluted supernatant and a 400 mM sodium hydroxide solution were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was alkali-treated at 30° C. for 60 minutes, and the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0).
- (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4). The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins alkali-treated in (3) were divided by the antibody binding activities of Fc binding proteins not alkali-treated in (3) to determine percentages of remaining activity.
- (5) A plasmid was prepared from a transformant expressing an Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm36b. The sequence of a polynucleotide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed through the method described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm36b.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequence, positions of substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein are accumulated as follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm36b is not included).

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Thr25Met, Gln35Met, His42Leu, Ser53Thr, Gln64His, Thr67Ala, Thr67Ser, Val77Lys, Leu89Pro, Ser90Gly, Gln97Leu, Gln97Lys, Arg102Leu, Gly103Asp, Thr115Ile, Glu118Asp, Lys128Arg, Asp129Gly, Leu131Gln, Tyr133Tyr, Lys142Arg, Asn152Pro, Lys157Arg, Ser182Thr. Ser182Leu, Thr199Ala, Leu203Leu, Glu213Val. Lys215Arg, Lys215Glu, Leu218Ile, Gln224Arg, Tyr230His, Ser233Gly, Lys234Glu, Glu244Val, Thr249Ala, Thr249Ser, Glu253Gly, Glu261Val, Ala262Val, Ala263Ser, Glu265Ala, Leu270His, Lys271Arg, Gln279Arg, Gln279His, Leu283Pro, Pro286Gln, Thr28711e, Thr287Pro, Val289Ala, Val289Asp, or Val289Gly was caused. Further, among the substitutions, substitution (for example, 45 Tyr133Tyr) in which specified amino acids are not changed represents that a substituted (mutated) amino acid returns to a wild-type amino acid. Results of analysis of amino acid substitutions are shown in Table 12. Table 12 reveals that when the FcRm36b was further substituted with amino 50 acids, the Fc binding protein has improved stability.

TABLE 12

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
His42Leu	8.3
Gln55His	7.4
Thr67Ser	8.9
Asp129Gly	14.8
Leu131Gln	13.2
Tyr133Tyr	11.8
Ser182Thr	10.2
Thr199Ala	9.9
Leu203Leu	11.5
Tyr230His	11.9
Ser233Gly	89.0
Lys234Glu	8.3

50 TABLE 12-continued

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Glu244Val	10.4
Thr249Ser	13.2
Glu261Val	14.1
Glu265Gly	17.7
Glu265Ala	12.5
Lys271Arg	13.0
Pro286Gln	7.6
Val289Asp	13.1
Val289Ile	7.3
Thr25Met, Gln64His	8.5
Thr25Met, Thr115Ile	12.1
Arg71Tyr, Val289Ala	6.8
Val77Lys, Ala263Ser	13.8
Leu89Pro, Gln97Lys	9.2
Ser90Gly, Lys271Arg	9.9
Gln97Leu, Glu261Val	17.0
Lys128Arg, Thr249Ala	20.2
Tyr133Tyr, Ala262Val	10.9
Tyr133Tyr, Leu270His	10.1
Lys157Arg, Leu218Ile	21.3
Ser182Leu, Glu213Val	23.2
Ser182Thr, Val289Gly	10.2
Lys215Arg, Gln224Arg	13.3
Lys215Glu, Lys271Arg	10.3
Gln224Arg, Gln279Arg	13.0
Glu253Gly, Val289Asp	13.9
Leu283Pro, Thr287Ile	8.3
Thr25Met, Lys142Arg, Thr287Pro	14.4
Gln35Met, Thr249Ser, Gln279His	11.0
Ser53Thr, Asn152Pro, Val289Ala	16.8
Thr67Ala, Thr199Ala, Val289Asp	11.9
Arg102Leu, Gly103Asp, Glu244Val	18.6
Glu118Asp, Asp129Gly, Ser233Gly	29.2
FcRm36b	7.5

Example 23

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm44)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 22, Gln97Leu, Lys128Arg, Lys157Arg, Ser182Leu, Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, Thr249Ala, and Glu261Val that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The substitutions were accumulated with respect to the FcRm36b described in Example 18 to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm44 in which 44 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, the amino acid substitutions shown as Lys128Arg, Lys157Arg, Glu213Val, Leu218Ile, and Thr249Ala were carried out using oligonucleotides described below.

- (i) amino acid substitution Lys128Arg: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 122 (5'-55 CAGCTTATCTCTCCATGCGTGGCAA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 123 (5'-TTGCCACGCATGGAGAGATAAGCTG-3')
 - (ii) amino acid substitution Lys157Arg: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 124 (5'-ACGTGTTCGTCCTCGGAATGGTCAGGGT-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 125 (5'-ACCCTGACCATTCCGAGGAC-GAACACGT-3')
- (iii) amino acid substitutions Glu213Val and Leu218Ile: an
 oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID
 NO: 126 (5'-ACGCTGTATCAGCAGTTTTGGTTACGCAGCTCA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence

shown in SEQ ID NO: 127 (5'-TGAGCTGCGTAAC-CAAACTGCTGATACAGCGT-3')

- (iv) amino acid substitution Thr249Ala: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 128 (5'-ACGACGCGCGGCTAAAATCTGATACT-3') and an oli-5 gonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 129 (5'-AGTATCAGATTTTAGCCGCGCGCGTCGT-3')
- (1) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing the polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm36b obtained by screening in Example 22 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Gln97Leu and Glu261Val. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 122 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was 15 carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m44p1.
- (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm36b obtained by screening in Example 22 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Gln97Leu and Glu261Val. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 123 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 128 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m44p2.
- (3) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein 35 in which the Fc binding protein FcRm36b obtained by screening in Example 22 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Gln97Leu and Glu261Val. The PCR was carried out using the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 129 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in 45 Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m44p3.
- (4) Three types of the PCR products, m44 p1, m44p2, and m44p3 were purified, and mixed. The PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 50 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including 55 the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR 60 product was designated as m44p4.
- (5) The m44p4 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m44p4 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ 65 ID NO: 124 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step,

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- 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m44p5.
- (6) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm36b obtained by screening in Example 22 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Ser182Leu and Glu213Val. The PCR was carried out using the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 125 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 126 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m44p6.
- (7) The m44p4 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m44p4 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 127 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m44p7.
 - (8) Three types of the PCR products, m44p5, m44p6, and m44p7 were purified. The purified m44p5, m44p6, and m44p7 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using the PCR product as a template. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The resulting PCR product obtained was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein FcRm44 in which 44 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.
 - (9) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm44 was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
 - (10) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm44 containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm44.
 - (11) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm44 was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm44 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 130, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm44 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 131. In SEQ ID NO: 130, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm44 is from glutamine at position 34 to

valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 130, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at position 59, alanine of Val45Ala is at position 63, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at 10 position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of 20 Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, 25 threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, histidine of Leu203His is at position 221, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, glutamine of Leu207Gln is at position 225, valine of Glu213Val is at position 231, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, lysine of Met231Lys is at 30 position 249, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Glu261Val is at position 279, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303.

Example 24

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm44)

The transformants produced in Examples 23 and 2 were prepared in the same manner as in Example 14. The productivities of Fc binding proteins measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4) were compared as the production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture broth.

The results are shown in FIG. 12. FcR in FIG. 12 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. The FcRm44 that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 23 was confirmed to have higher productivity than the wild-type Fc binding protein. The results in FIG. 12 reveal that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) 55 involved in improved stability.

Example 25

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm44) Against Alkali

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(1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm36b and FcRm44) and a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof 65 were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).

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- (2) Each of the Fc binding proteins was diluted so that the concentration was 5 μ g/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 10 minutes.
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample which was not alkali-treated in (2) for comparison were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (4) The antibody binding activity of the alkali-treated sample was divided by the antibody binding activity of the sample not alkali-treated to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.

FIG. 13 shows a result of comparison of stability against alkali. FcR in FIG. 13 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm36b in FIG. 13 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 18. FcRm44 that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 23 was confirmed to have higher stability against alkali than these Fc binding proteins. The result in FIG. 13 reveals that the stability of the Fc binding protein against alkali is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 26

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm44) and Production of Library

- (1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm44 produced in Example 23 by the error-prone PCR. The reaction solution composition in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid pETFcRm44 described in Example 23 was used as a template DNA. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 120 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 121 were used as PCR primers. A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C.
 - (2) The PCR product obtained in (1) was purified, digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction.
 - (3) After completion of the reaction, *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the resulting ligation product by the electroporation method, and cultured in LB agar medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin to form colonies. Thus, an FcRm44 random mutation transformant library was produced.

Example 27

Screening of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm44) Library

(1) The FcRm44 random mutation transformant library produced in Example 26 was inoculated into 200 µL of an LB broth medium containing 50 µg/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.

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- (2) After the culturing, 5 W, of culture broth was subcultured into 500 μL of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water five times, and the diluted supernatant and a 400 mM sodium hydroxide solution were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was alkali-treated at 30° C. for 120 minutes, and the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0).
- (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4). The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins alkali-treated in (3) were divided by the antibody binding activities of Fc binding proteins not alkali-treated in (3) to obtain percentages of remaining activity.
- (5) A plasmid was prepared from a transformant expressing an Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm44. The sequence of a polynucleotide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the plasmid was analyzed through the method described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm44.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequences, positions of substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein are accumulated as follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm44 is not included).

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Val17Gly, Thr19Ile, Thr25Met, Thr25Arg, Gln35Met, Glu44Asp, Leu46Ser, His47Gln, His47Leu, Pro49Ala, Gly50Arg, Ser51Thr, Ser51Leu, Ser51Pro, Gln55Arg, Ala62Val, Gln64Leu, Ser69Ala, Thr73Ala, Asn78Gly, Ser80Ala, Gly88Ser, Ser90Gly, His101Leu, Gly103Ser, Ala121Thr, Ala121Val, Lys128Gly, Leu131Gln, Asn134Ser, Tyr137Phe, Ser151Thr, Asn159Thr, Thr165Met, Thr184Ser, Asn195Asn, Asn195Ala, Ala196Ser, Thr199Ser, Leu203Gln, Glu204Val, Ser211Gly, Gln219Arg, Gln224Arg, Phe227Ile, Ser233Asn, Lys234Glu, Gln246Arg, Leu248Ile, Arg252His, Leu257Gln. Asn268Ile, Gln279Arg. Gly282Asp. Pro286Arg, Thr287Pro, Thr287Ala, Thr287Val, Val289Ala, Val289Asp, or Val289Leu was caused. Further, among the substitutions, substitution (for example, Asn195Asn) in which the represented amino acids are not changed represents that a substituted (mutated) amino acid returns to a wild-type amino acid. Results of analysis of amino acid substitutions are shown in Table 13. Table 13 reveals that when the FcRm44 was further substituted with amino acids, the Fc binding protein has improved stability.

TABLE 13

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Val17Gly	29.9
Thr19Ile	26.2
Thr25Met	41.3
Thr25Arg	32.2
Leu46Ser	35.9
His47Gln	43.7
His47Leu	16.4
Gln55Arg	19.6

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Ser69Ala	27.2
Ser80Ala	31.7
His101Leu	21.7
Lys128Gly	48.2
Leu131Gln	47.4
Asn134Ser	27.6
Asn159Thr	30.3
Thr165Met	19.8
Asn195Ser	15.1
Ser200Gly	14.9
Leu203Gln	17.1
Gln224Arg	27.5
Phe227Ile	16.5
Leu248Ile	17.0
Trp259Arg	12.8
Gln279Arg	19.8
Gly282Asp	31.2
Thr287Pro	28.6
Val289Ala	28.1
Val289Asp	18.9
Gln35Met, Arg252His	22.6
Glu44Asp, Ala62Val	33.1
Pro49Ala, Gly88ser	22.9
Gly50Arg, Ser51Pro	19.4
Asn78Gly, Val289Leu	22.8
Ser90Gly, Asn268Ile	26.5
Gly103Ser, Leu257Gln	29.7
Asn195Asn, Lys234Glu	30.4
Ser211Gly, Ser233Asn	16.2
Gln219Arg, Thr287Val	34.8
His47Leu, Asn195Ala, Gln246Arg	25.3
Ser51Leu, Ala121Thr, Thr199Ser	50.5
Ser51Thr, Tyr137Phe, Thr184Ser	65.6
Gln64Leu, Ala196Ser, Pro286Arg	27.8
Thr73Ala, Ala121Val, Thr287Ala	40.5
Thr73Ala, Ser151Thr, Thr199Ser, Glu204Val FcRm44	30 0 16.0

Example 28

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 27, Ser51Thr, Leu131Gln, Tyr137Phe and Thr184Ser that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm44 described in Example 23 to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm48 in which 48 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 132 (5'-GTGCACCTGCTTATCTCTCCATGCGT-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 133 (5'-ACGCATGGAGAGATAAGCAGGT-55 GCAC-3') were used for amino acid substitution shown as Leu131Gln.

(1) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm44 obtained by screening in Example 27 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Ser51Thr, Tyr137Phe, and Thr184Ser. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 132 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the

reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m48p1.

- (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm44 obtained by 5 screening in Example 27 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Ser51Thr, Tyr137Phe, and Thr184Ser. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 133 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The 10 PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m48p2.
- (3) Two types of the PCR products m48 μl and m48p2 were purified. The purified m48 µl and m48p2 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using 20 the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID 25 NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was purified to obtain 30 a polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein FcRm48 in which 48 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.
- (4) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm48 was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and 35 ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (5) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB 40 medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm48 containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm48.
- (6) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm48 was ana- 45 lyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm48 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 134, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm48 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 135. In SEQ ID NO: 134, 50 the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm48 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine 55 at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 134, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at 60 position 59, alanine of Val45Ala is at position 63, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, threonine of Ser51Thr is at position 69, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine 65 of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, glutamic

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acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146, glutamine of Leu131Gln is at position 149, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, phenylalanine of Tyr137Phe is at position 155, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, serine of Thr184Ser is at position 202, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, histidine of Leu203His is at position 221, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, glutamine of Leu207Gln is at position 225, valine of Glu213Val is at position 231, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Glu261Val is at position 279, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303.

Example 29

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48)

The transformants produced in Examples 28 and 2 were prepared in the same manner as in Example 14. The productivities of Fc binding proteins measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4) were compared as the production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture broth.

The results are shown in FIG. 14. FcR in FIG. 14 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2.

The FcRm48 that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 28 was confirmed to have higher productivity than the wild-type Fc binding protein. The results in FIG. 14 reveal that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 30

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48) Against Alkali

- (1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm44 and FcRm48) and a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (2) Each of the Fc binding proteins was diluted so that the concentration was 5 μ g/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 50 minutes
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample which was not alkali-treated in (2) for comparison were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).

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(4) The antibody binding activity of the alkali-treated sample was divided by the antibody binding activity of the sample not alkali-treated to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.

FIG. **15** shows a result of comparison of stability against ⁵ alkali. FcR in FIG. **15** shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm44 in FIG. **15** shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 23. The FcRm48 that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 28 was confirmed to have higher stability against alkali than these Fc binding proteins. The result in FIG. **15** reveals that the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 31

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48) and Production of Library

- (1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm48 produced in Example 28 by the error-prone PCR. The reaction solution composition 25 in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid pETFcRm48 described in Example 28 was used as a template DNA. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 120 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 121 were used as PCR primers. A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C.
- (2) The PCR product obtained in (1) was purified, digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction.
- (3) After completion of the reaction, $E.\ coli$ strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the resulting ligation product by the electroporation method, and cultured in LB agar medium containing 50 µg/mL of kanamycin to form colonies. Thus, an FcRm48 random mutation transformant library was produced.

Example 32

Screening of Library of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48) with Improved Stability

- (1) The FcRm48 random mutation transformant library produced in Example 31 was inoculated into 200 μ L of an 55 LB broth medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 5 μ L of culture broth was subcultured into 500 μ L of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 60 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water five times, and 65 the diluted supernatant and a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was

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alkali-treated at 30° C. for 120 minutes, and the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0).

- (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4). The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins alkali-treated in (3) were divided by the antibody binding activities of Fc binding proteins not alkali-treated in (3) to obtain percentages of remaining activity.
- (5) A plasmid was prepared from the transformant expressing the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm48. The sequence of a polynucle-otide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed through the method described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm48.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequence, positions of substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein are integrated as follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm48 is not included).

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Thr25Met, Gln35Arg, His42Leu, Val45Val, His47Asn, Ser51Ala, Ser53Pro, Gln64Lys, Arg71Tyr, Val77Val, Ile96Val, Ser151Thr, Asn159Asp, Thr199Ser, Thr199Ala, Leu207Arg, Thr209Ala, Glu213Ile, Lys215Glu, Leu223Arg, Glu261Ala, Leu223Gln, Lys234Glu, Asn240Gly, Asn268Thr, Leu270Arg, Leu270Val, Arg272Gln, Pro286Glu, Pro286Gln, Thr287Pro, Thr287Ser, Pro288Ala, Pro288Ser, Val289Ala, Val289Asp, or Val289Gly was caused. Further, substitution (for example, Val77Val) in which specified amino acids are not changed represents that a substituted (mutated) amino acid returns to a wild-type amino acid. Results of analysis of amino acid substitutions are shown in Table 14. Table 14 reveals that when the FcRm48 was further substituted with amino acids, the Fc

TABLE 14

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Gln35Arg	41.8
His47Asn	34.4
Leu55Gln	19.2
Ser69Ala	24.4
His101Arg	20.1
Ser151Thr	52.5
Asn159Asp	39.9
Thr199Ala	40.3
Thr199Ser	36.2
Leu207Arg	35.9
Leu223Arg	37.7
Leu223Gln	35.2
Leu248Ile	25.7
Asn268Thr	36.1
Asn268Ser	32.7
Leu270Val	48.2
Leu270Arg	43.6
Pro286Ser	33.3
Pro286Gln	43.2
Thr287Pro	40.1
Pro288Ala	39.4
Va1289Ala	43.9
Val289Asp	41.0
Val289Gly	43.6
Thr25Met, Ser151Thr	42.5
His42Leu, Lys234Glu	36.0

TABLE 14-continued

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)	
Ser53Pro, Pro286Glu	37.5	
Gln64Lys, Val289Ala	51.6	
Thr67Ser, Leu218Leu	32.8	
Arg71Tyr, Lys215Glu	34.5	
Val77Val, Ser151Thr	47.6	
Gly103Asp, Leu131Arg	33.6	
Thr199Ala, Glu213Glu	23.8	
Pro286Gln, Va1289Asp	41.5	
Thr19Ile, Thr25Met, Ser52Val	34.1	
Val45Val, Ser51Ala, Thr199Ala	55.0	
His47Gln, Arg71Leu, Gly238Glu	21.7	
Val109Ala, Trp149Gln, Val289Phe	33.8	
Glu261Ala, Leu270Arg, Pro288Ser	37.7	
Arg272Gln, Thr287Ser, Val289Asp	39.5	
Ile96Val, Thr209Ala, Glu213Ile, Asn240Gly	35.6	
FcRm48	34.3	

Example 33

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm54b)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved $_{25}$ stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 32, His42Leu, Ser51Ala, Ser151Thr, Thr199Ala, Lys234Glu, and Leu270Val that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc bind- 30 ing protein shown in Example 27, Thr73Ala and Ala121Val that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm48 described in Example 28, and the amino acid of the amino acid substitution shown as 35 Val45Ala was substituted with valine to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm54b in which 54 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, the amino acid substitutions shown as His42Leu, Thr73Ala, Ala121Val, Ser151Thr, Lys234Glu, and Leu270Val were carried out using oligonucleotides described below.

- (i) amino acid substitution His42Leu: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 136 (5'-CTTCGCAGAGCATCGTCACGGATTCT-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 137 (5'-AGAATCCGTGACGATGCTCTGCGAAG-3'
- (ii) amino acid substitution Thr73Ala: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 138 (5'- 50 TCGCTCGCGGAGGCAATGTGGTAAGT-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 139 (5'-ACTTACCACATTGCCTCCGCGAGCGA-3')
- (iii) amino acid substitution Ala121Val: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 140 (5'- 55 TGGCAACGTAATACAAGCGGTTCGCCT-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 141 (5'-AGGCGAACCGCTTGTATTACGTTGCCA-3')
- (iv) amino acid substitution Ser151Thr: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 142 (5'- 60 TGGTCAGGGTTGTGTTCCGGTGGAAGAA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 143 (5'-TTCTTCCACCGGAACACACCCT-GACCA-3')
- (v) amino acid substitution Lys234Glu: an oligonucleotide 65 including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 144 (5'-TCCGCGCAGGGTTTCGCTGCCCTTATA-3') and an oli-

gonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 145 (5'-TATAAGGGCAGCGAAACCCTGCGCGGA-3') (vi) amino acid substitution Leu270Val: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 146 (5'-TGGGCTCCGTTTAACCACATTGCCAT-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 147 (5'-ATGGCAATGTGGTTAAACGGAGCCCA-3')

- (1) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm48 obtained by screening in Example 32 was subjected to additional amino acid substitutions shown as Ser51Ala and Thr199Ala, and the amino acid of the amino acid substitution shown as Val45Ala was changed to valine. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 138 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54 bp1.
 - (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm48 obtained by screening in Example 32 was subjected to additional amino acid substitutions shown as Ser51Ala and Thr199Ala, and the amino acid shown as Val45Ala was changed to valine. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 139 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 140 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54 bp2.
 - (3) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm48 obtained by screening in Example 32 was subjected to additional amino acid substitutions shown as Ser51Ala and Thr199Ala, and the amino acid of the amino acid substitution shown as Val45Ala was changed to valine. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 141 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54 bp3.
 - (4) Three types of the PCR products, m54 bp1, m54 bp2, and m54 bp3 were purified. The purified m54 bp1, m54 bp2, and m54 bp3 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54 bp4.

(5) The m54 bp4 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m54 bp4 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 142 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 5 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54 bp5.

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(6) The m54 bp4 was purified. The PCR was carried out 10 using the purified m54 bp4 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 143 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 146 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 15 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54

(7) The m54 bp4 was purified. The PCR was carried out 20 using the purified m54 bp4 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 147 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 25 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54 bp7.

(8) Three types of the PCR products, m54 bp5, m54 bp6, 30 and m54 bp7 were purified. The purified m54 bp5, m54 bp6, and m54 bp7 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition 35 shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The 40 lyzed in the same manner as in Example 3. PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° \dot{C} . in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54 bp8.

(9) The m54 bp8 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m54 bp8 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 136 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 50 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54

(10) The m54 bp8 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m54 bp8 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 137 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 144 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 60 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54

(11) The m54 bp8 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m54 bp8 as a template and the oligonucle64

otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 145 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m54

(12) Three types of the PCR products, m54 bp9, m54 bp10, and m54 bp11 were purified. The purified m54 bp9, m54 bp10, and m54 bp11 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein FcRm54b in which 54 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.

(13) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm54b was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2. E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.

(14) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm54b containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm54b.

(15) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm54b was ana-

The amino acid sequence of FcRm54b plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 148, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm54b is shown in SEQ ID NO: 149. In SEQ ID NO: 148, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm54b is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 148, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Gln35Leu is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at 55 position 59, leucine of His42Leu is at position 60, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, alanine of Ser51Ala is at position 69, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, alanine of Thr73Ala is at position 91, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, valine of Ala121Val is at position 139, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146, glutamine of Leu131Gln is at

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position 149, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, phenylalanine of Tyr137Phe is at position 155, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Ser151Thr is at position 169, threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of 5 Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, serine of Thr184Ser is at position 202, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, alanine of Thr199Ala is at position 217, histidine of Leu203His is at position 221, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, glutamine of Leu207Gln is at position 225, valine of Glu213Valis at position 231, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, glutamic acid of Lys234Glu is at position 252, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Glu261Val is at 20 position 279, valine of Leu270Val is at position 288, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303.

Example 34

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm54b)

The transformants produced in Examples 33 and 2 were 30 prepared in the same manner as in Example 14. The productivities of Fc binding proteins measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4) were compared as the production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture 35

The results are shown in FIG. 16. FcR in FIG. 16 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2.

The FcRm54b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by 40 the transformant produced in Example 33 was confirmed to have higher productivity than the wild-type Fc binding protein. The results in FIG. 16 reveal that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability. 45

Example 35

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm54b) Against Alkali

- (1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm48 and FcRm54b) and a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 55 produced in Example 36 was inoculated into 200 μL of an 12(4).
- (2) Each of the Fc binding proteins was diluted so that the concentration was 5 µg/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 120 60
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample which was not alkali-treated in (2) for comparison were 65 measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).

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(4) The antibody binding activity of the alkali-treated sample was divided by the antibody binding activity of the sample not alkali-treated to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.

FIG. 17 shows a result of comparison of stability against alkali. FcR in FIG. 17 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm48 in FIG. 17 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 28. FcRm54b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 33 was confirmed to have higher stability against alkali than these Fc binding proteins. The result in FIG. 17 reveals that the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 36

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm54b) and Production of Library

- (1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm54b produced in Example 33 25 by the error-prone PCR. The reaction solution composition in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid pETFcRm54b described in Example 33 was used as a template DNA. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 120 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 121 were used as PCR primers. A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C.
 - (2) The PCR product obtained in (1) was purified, digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction. After completion of the reaction, E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the resulting ligation product by the electroporation method, and cultured in LB agar medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin to form colonies. Thus, an FcRm54b random mutation transformant library was produced.

Example 37

Screening of Library of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm54b) with Improved Stability

- (1) The FcRm54b random mutation transformant library LB broth medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 5 μL of culture broth was subcultured into 500 µL of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 µg/mL of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water five times, and the diluted supernatant and a 700 mM sodium hydroxide solution were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was

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alkali-treated at 30° C. for 120 minutes, and the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0).

- (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4). The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins alkali-treated in (3) were divided by the antibody binding activities of Fc binding proteins not alkali-treated in (3) to obtain percentages of remaining activity.
- (5) A plasmid was prepared from a transformant expressing an Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm54b. The sequence of a polynucle-otide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed through the method described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm54b.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequence, positions of substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein are accumulated as follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm54b is not included).

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ 25 ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Thr25Met, Gln35Gln, Leu41Leu, His47Gln, His47Asn, Ser53Pro, Phe57Tyr, Leu58Arg, Ala62Glu, Tyr70His, Arg92Leu, Ser111Ala, Thr115Ile, Glu118Asp, Tyr133Tyr, Gly141Asp, Gly141Val, Thr154Ser, Ser182Val, Thr184Thr, Pro190Ser, Leu202Met, Leu203Tyr, Leu207Pro, Glu213Glu, Leu217Arg, Leu218Met. Leu218Lys, Gln219Arg, Glu244Val, Tyr245His, Leu248Ser, Glu261Glu, Ala263Ser, Pro286Gln, Thr287Ala, Pro288Thr, Val289Gly, Val289Asp, or Val289Leu was caused. Further, among the substitutions, substitution (for example, Gln35Gln) in which specified amino acids are not changed represents that a to substituted (mutated) amino acid returns to a wild-type amino acid. Results of analysis of amino acid substitutions are shown in Table 15. Table 15 reveals that when the FcRm54b was substituted with amino acids, the Fc binding protein has improved stability.

TABLE 15

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Leu41Leu	55.0
Glu44Asp	35.7
His47Gln	45.3
Phe57Tyr	39.2
Arg92Leu	45.8
Gly141Asp	45.0
Ser182Val	59.3
Pro190Ser	51.0
Glu213Glu	44.5
Gln219Arg	51.5
Tyr245His	46.7
Leu248Ser	47.9
Glu261Glu	39.6
Pro286Gln	49.9
Thr287Asn	37.1
Val289Gly	57.8
Val289Asp	57.6
Thr25Met, Pro286Gln	50.3
His47Asn, Pro286Gln	51.3
Ser53Pro, Val289Leu	40.6
Leu58Arg, Thr115Ile	72.3
Thr61Ser, Gly88Ser	38.4
Ala62Glu, Leu217Arg	50.8
Ser111Ala, Val289Asp	57.9

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Glu118Asp, Tyr133Tyr	45.9
Met171Lys, Val289Ala	35.2
Thr184Thr, Leu218Met	44.0
Leu203Tyr, Leu218Lys	38.9
Leu207Pro, Val289Asp	56.0
Thr287Ala, Pro288Thr	39.0
Gln35Gln, Tyr70His, Leu202Met	41.4
Gly141Val, Thr154Ser, Met231Arg, Glu244Val, Ala263Ser	43.7
FcRm54b	38.6

Example 38

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 37, Leu58Arg, Ser111Ala, and Thr115Ile that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm54b described in Example 33, and the amino acid of the amino acid substitution shown as Glu261Val was changed to glutamine to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm56b in which 56 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, in order to cause amino acid substitution shown as Ser111Ala and change the amino acid of the amino acid substitution shown as Glu261Valto previous glutamine (Glu), oligonucleotides described below were used.

- (i) amino acid substitution Ser111Ala: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 150 (5'-AAACGCGGGCGCTAACCTGTAAAAGCA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 151 (5'-TGCTTTTACAGGTTAGCGCCCGCGTTT-3')
- (ii) change of amino acid of amino acid substitution Glu261Val to previous glutamine (Glu): an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 152 (5'-TCGGTCGCCGCTTCACACCAGTACA-3') and an oligoucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 153 (5'-TGTACTGGTGTGAAGCGGCGACCGA-3')
- (1) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm54b obtained by screening in Example 37 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Leu58Arg and Thr115Ile. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 152 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m56 bp1.
- (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm54b obtained by screening in Example 37 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Leu58Arg and Thr115Ile. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 153 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was

carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m56 bp2.

- (3) Two types of the PCR products m56 bp1 and m56 bp2 were purified. The purified m56 bp1 and m56 bp2 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using 10 the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID 15 NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m56 20 bp3.
- (4) The m56 bp3 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m56 bp3 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ 25 ID NO: 150 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m56 30 bp4.
- (5) The m56 bp3 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m56 bp3 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 151 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ 35 ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m56 40 bp5.
- (6) Two types of the PCR products m56 bp4 and m56 bp5 were purified. The purified m56 bp4 and m56 bp5 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the 45 second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the 50 oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition 55 shown in Table 4. The PCR product was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding tan Fc binding protein FcRm56b in which 56 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.
- (7) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm56b was 60 digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (8) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was

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extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm56b containing the polynucle-otide encoding the FcRm56b.

(9) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm56b was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm56b plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEO ID NO: 154, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm56b is shown in SEQ ID NO: 155. In SEQ ID NO: 154, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm56b is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 154, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at position 59, leucine of His42Leu is at position 60, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, alanine of Ser51Ala is at position 69, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, arginine of Leu58Arg is at position 76, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, alanine of Thr73Ala is at position 91, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, alanine of Ser111Ala is at position 129, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, isoleucine of Thr115Ile is at position 133, valine of Ala121Valis at position 139, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146, glutamine of Leu131Gln is at position 149, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, phenylalanine of Tyr137Phe is at position 155, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Ser151Thr is at position 169, threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, serine of Thr184Ser is at position 202, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, alanine of Thr199Ala is at position 217, histidine of Leu203His is at position 221, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, glutamine of Leu207Gln is at position 225, valine of Glu213Val is at position 231, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, glutamic acid of Lys234Glu is at position 252, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Leu270Val is at position 288, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303.

Example 39

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b)

The transformants produced in Examples 38 and 2 were prepared in the same manner as in Example 14. The productivities of Fc binding proteins measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4) were compared as the

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production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture

The results are shown in FIG. 18. FcR in FIG. 18 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. The FcRm56b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 38 was confirmed to have higher productivity than the wild-type Fc binding protein. The result in FIG. 18 reveals that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 40

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b) Against Alkali

- and a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- concentration was 5 µg/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 180 minutes.
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region 30 with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample which was not alkali-treated in (2) for comparison were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (4) The antibody binding activity of the alkali-treated sample was divided by the antibody binding activity of the sample not alkali-treated to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.
- FIG. 19 shows a result of comparison of stability against 40 alkali. FcR in FIG. 19 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm54b in FIG. 19 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 33. The FcRm56b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant pro- 45 duced in Example 38 was confirmed to have higher stability against alkali than these Fc binding proteins. The result in FIG. 19 reveals that the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 41

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b) and Production of Library

(1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm56b produced in Example 38 by the error-prone PCR. The reaction solution composition in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid 60 pETFcRm56b described in Example 38 was used as a template DNA. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 120 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 121 were used as PCR primers. A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 65 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the

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second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C.

(2) The PCR product was purified, digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction. After completion of the reaction, E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the resulting ligation product by the electroporation method, and cultured in LB agar medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin to form colonies. Thus, an FcRm56b random mutation transformant library was produced.

Example 42

Screening of Library of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b) with Improved Stability

- (1) The FcRm56b random mutation transformant library (1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm54b and FcRm56b) 20 produced in Example 41 was inoculated into 200 μL of an LB broth medium containing 50 µg/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 5 μL of culture broth was subcul-(2) Each of the Fc binding proteins was diluted so that the 25 tured into 500 μL of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 μg/mL of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
 - (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water five times, and the diluted supernatant and a 800 mM sodium hydroxide solution were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was alkali-treated at 30° C. for 180 minutes, and the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 35 8.0).
 - (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4). The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins alkali-treated in (3) were divided by the antibody binding activities of Fc binding proteins not alkali-treated in (3) to obtain percentages of remaining activity.
 - (5) A plasmid was prepared from the transformant expressing the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm56b. The sequence of a polynucleotide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed through the method described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm56b.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequence, positions of substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein are accumulated as follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm56b is not included).

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Thr19Ile, Thr25Thr, Thr25Met, Thr38Ala, Ser53Thr, Thr61Ala, Thr63Phe, Tyr70Phe, Asn78Gly, Leu131Leu, Asn140Asp, Thr154Ser, Ser161Thr. Thr177Ser, Leu203Leu, Leu203Arg, Leu207Pro, Lys215Arg, Tyr230Phe, Ser233Gly, Asn268Ser, Leu283Leu, Leu285His, Pro286Ser, Thr287Pro, Val289Ala, Val289Asp, Val289Leu, or Val289Ile was caused. Further, among the substitutions, substitution (for example, Thr25Thr) in which a specified amino acid is not changed represents that a substituted (mutated) amino acid returns to a wild-type amino acid. The results of analysis of amino acid

substitutions are shown in Table 16. Table 16 reveals that when the FcRm56b was substituted with amino acids, the Fc binding protein has improved stability.

TABLE 16

Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Thr19Ile	47.4
Thr25Thr	47.9
Thr38Ala	40.8
Ser53Thr	41.1
Thr61Ser	38.1
Thr63Phe	41.4
Tyr70Phe	59.3
His101Tyr	39.6
Asn140Asp	41.9
Leu203Arg	50.7
Leu207pro	51.6
Tyr230Phe	60.6
Ser233Gly	50.8
Leu283Leu	42.5
Leu285His	46.7
Thr287Pro	48.1
Thr287Asn	37.9
Val289Leu	47.7
Thr25Met, Asn268Ser	44.6
Glu44Val, Thr67Ala	38.7
Tyr70Phe, Lys215Arg	58.8
Asn78Gly, Val289Asp	43.6
Leu131Leu, Leu203Leu	54.7
Thr154Ser, Ser233Gly	43.6
Ser161Thr, Val289Asp	42.5
Thr177Ser, Asn268Ser	41.2
Leu203Arg, Ser233Gly	56.3
Pro286Ser, Val289Ala	42.3
Thr61Ala, Asn268Ser, Val289Ile	42.3
FcRm56b	40.2

Example 43

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 42, Tyr70Phe, Leu207Pro, Tyr230Phe, and Ser233Gly that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm56b described in Example 38, and the 45 amino acids of the amino acid substitutions shown as Leu131Gln and Leu203His were substituted with leucine to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm57b in which 57 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Further, the amino acid substitutions shown as Tyr70Phe, Leu207Pro, Tyr230Phe, and Ser233Gly were carried out using oligonucleotides described below.

- (i) amino acid substitution Tyr70Phe: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 156 (5'-AGGCAATGTGGAAAGTCGGGGTGGA-3') and an oli-55 gonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 157 (5'-TCCACCCCGACTTTCCACATTGCCT-3')
- (ii) amino acid substitution Leu207Pro: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 158 (5'-AGCTCAGGGTCACCGGAGTGCCTTCA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 159 (5'-TGAAGGCACTCCGGTGACCCTGAGCT-3')
- (iii) amino acid substitution Tyr230Phe: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 160 (5'-GCCCTTAAAGAACGAGAAATACAGCT-3') and an oli-65 gonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 161 (5'-AGCTGTATTTCTCGTTCTTTAAGGGC-3')

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(iv) amino acid substitution Ser233Gly: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 162 (5'-TCCGCGCAGGGTTTCGCCGCCCTTA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 163 (5'-TAAGGGCGGCGAAACCCTGCGCGGA-3')

(1) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which each amino acid of the amino acid substitutions Leu131Gln and Leu203His of the Fc binding protein
FcRm56b obtained by screening in Example 42 was changed to leucine. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 156 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bp1.

(2) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid
containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein
in which each amino acid of the amino acid substitutions
Leu131Gln and Leu203His of the Fc binding protein
FcRm56b obtained by screening in Example 42 was
changed to leucine. The oligonucleotide including the
sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 157 and the oligonucleotide
including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 162 were used
as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles
consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds
at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the
third step using the reaction solution composition shown in
Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bp2.

(3) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which each amino acid of the amino acid substitutions Leu131Gln and Leu203His of the Fc binding protein FcRm56b obtained by screening in Example 42 was changed to leucine. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 163 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bp3.

(4) Three types of the PCR products, m57 bp1, m57 bp2, and m57 bp3 were purified. The purified m57 bp1, m57 bp2, and m57 bp3 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bp4.

(5) The m57 bp4 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m57 bp4 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 158 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72°

C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bn5

- (6) The m57 bp4 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m57 bp4 as a template and the oligonucle-5 otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 159 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. 10 in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bp6.
- (7) Two types of the PCR products m57 bp5 and m57 bp6 were purified. The purified m57 bp5 and m57 bp6 were 15 mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using 20 this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 25 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bp7.
- (8) The m57 bp7 was purified. The PCR was carried out 30 using the purified m57 bp7 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 160 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 35 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bn8
- (9) The m57 bp7 was purified. The PCR was carried out 40 using the purified m57 bp7 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 161 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 45 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m57 bp9.
- (10) Two types of the PCR products m57 bp8 and m57 50 bp9 were purified. The purified m57 bp8 and m57 bp9 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the 55 PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 60 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein FcRm57b 65 in which 57 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.

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- (11) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm57b was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (12) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm57b containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm57b.
- (13) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm57b was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm57b plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 164, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm57b is shown in SEQ ID NO: 165. In SEQ ID NO: 164, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm57b is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 154, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at position 59, leucine of His42Leu is at position 60, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, alanine of Ser51Ala is at position 69, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, arginine of Leu58Arg is at position 76, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, phenylalanine of Tyr70Phe is at position 88, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, alanine of Thr73Ala is at position 91, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, alanine of Ser111Ala is at position 129, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, isoleucine of Thr115Ile is at position 133, valine of Ala121Valis at position 139, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, phenylalanine of Tyr137Phe is at position 155, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Ser151Thr is at position 169, threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, serine of Thr184Ser is at position 202, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, alanine of Thr199Ala is at position 217, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, proline of Leu207Pro is at position 225, valine of Glu213Val is at position 231, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, phenylalanine of Tyr230Phe is at position 248, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, glycine of Ser233Gly is at position 251, glutamic acid of Lys234Glu is at position 252, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Leu270Val is at position 288, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, and glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303.

Example 44

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b)

The transformants produced in Examples 43 and 2 were prepared in the same manner as in Example 14. The productivities of Fc binding proteins measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4) were compared as the production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture broth.

The results are shown in FIG. 20. FcR in FIG. 20 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2.

The FcRm57b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 43 was confirmed to have higher productivity than the wild-type Fc binding protein. The result in FIG. 20 reveals that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino ²⁰ acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 45

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b) Against Alkali

- (1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm56b and FcRm57b) and a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations ³⁰ thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (2) Each of the Fc binding proteins was diluted so that the concentration was 5 μ g/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was ³⁵ added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 120 minutes.
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample ⁴⁰ which was not alkali-treated in (2) for comparison were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (4) The antibody binding activity of the alkali-treated sample was divided by the antibody binding activity of the 45 sample not alkali-treated to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.
- FIG. 21 shows a result of comparison of stability against alkali. FcR in FIG. 21 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. 50 FcRm56b in FIG. 21 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 38. FcRm57b that was the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant produced in Example 43 was confirmed to have higher stability against alkali than these Fc binding proteins. The result in 55 FIG. 21 reveals that the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 46

Mutation Introduction into Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b) and Production of Library

(1) A mutation was randomly introduced into the poly- 65 nucleotide encoding the FcRm57b produced in Example 43 by the error-prone PCR. The reaction solution composition

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in the error-prone PCR is shown in the Table 9. The plasmid pETFcRm57b described in Example 43 was used as a template DNA and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 120 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 121 were used as PCR primers. A PCR was carried out by heating for 2 minutes at 95° C., carrying out 30 cycles consisting of 30 seconds at 95° C. in the first step, 30 seconds at 60° C. in the second step, and 90 seconds at 72° C. in the third step, and finally heating for 7 minutes at 72° C.

- (2) The PCR product was purified, digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and inserted in the plasmid pETMalE (FIG. 4), which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and produced in Example 2, by a ligation reaction.
- (3) After completion of the reaction, *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed using the resulting ligation product by the electroporation method, and cultured in LB agar medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin to form colonies. Thus, an FcRm57b random mutation transformant library was produced.

Example 47

Screening of Library of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b) with Improved Stability

- (1) The FcRm57b random mutation transformant library produced in Example 46 was inoculated into 200 μL of an LB broth medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 5 μ L of culture broth was subcultured into 500 μ L of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with pure water five times, and the diluted supernatant and a 1000 mM sodium hydroxide solution were mixed in equal volumes. The mixture was alkali-treated at 30° C. for 180 minutes, and the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0)
- (4) The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins obtained from about 3,000 transformants were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4). The antibody binding activities of the Fc binding proteins alkali-treated in (3) were divided by the antibody binding activities of Fc binding proteins not alkali-treated in (3) to obtain percentages of remaining activity.
- (5) A plasmid was prepared from a transformant expressing an Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm57b. The sequence of a polynucle-otide region encoding an Fc binding protein inserted in the obtained plasmid was analyzed through the method described in Example 3 to identify mutation sites of amino acid existing in the Fc binding protein with improved stability in comparison with the FcRm57b.

As shown from the results of analysis of the nucleotide sequence, positions of substitutions of amino acid in the Fc binding protein are accumulated as follows (provided that the substitution of amino acid existing in the FcRm57b is not included).

Specifically, in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1, substitution shown as Val17Glu, Gln27Lys, Leu41Leu, Gly50Glu, Ser51Val, Ser53Leu, Thr61Ser,

Thr65Val, Ser74Phe, Ser76Asn, Arg84Ser, Gly88Ser, Leu89Pro, Ile96Lys, Thr115Phe, Glu118Asp, Asp129Gly, Gly141Asp, Asn159Asp, Thr165Met, Lys173Lys, His174Gln. Ser182Glu. Val198Met. Leu202Met. Leu203Pro. Glu213Ile, Leu217Gln. Leu223Met, Tyr245Glu, Gln246Lys, Leu248Ile, Gln279Arg, Pro286Gln, Thr287Pro, Val289Ala, Val289Asp, or Val289Gly was caused. Further, substitution (for example, Leu41Leu) in which specified amino acid is not changed represents that a substituted (mutated) amino acid returns to a wild-type amino acid. Results of analysis of amino acid substitutions are shown in Table 17. Table 17 reveals that when the FcRm57b was further substituted with amino acids, the Fc binding protein has improved stability.

TABLE 17

TABLE 17	
Amino acid substitution	Remaining activity (%)
Val17Glu	63.2
Lys25Met	54.6
Leu41Leu	63.7
Gln55Leu	58.6
Phe57Leu	38.9
Ser74Phe	65.3
Ser76Asn	65.3
Gly88Ser	69.9
Glu118Asp	71.0
Lys157Lys	57.7
Thr165Met	75.5
Lys173Lys	71.8
His174Gln	63.1
Leu202Met	67.4
Ser211Gly	53.6
Leu223Met	67.8
Tyr245Glu	63.7
Gln246Lys	76.2
Pro286Gln	66.5
Thr287Ser	60.1
Thr287Pro	69.4
Val289Asp	69.6
Val289Gly	69.5
Lys25Met, Phe144Ile	59.2
Lys25Met, Ala250Thr	56.9
Lru46Ser, Asp94Glu	59.5
Gly50Glu, Thr65Val	62.7
Ser51Val, Leu203Pro	68.8
Arg84Ser, Gln279Arg	61.8
Leu89Pro, Val289Gly	71.3
Ile96Lys, Thr287Pro	62.8
Gly141Asp, Val198Met	64.5
Ser182Glu, Glu213Ile	65.0
Leu217Gln, Val289Asp	75.5
Gln27Lys, Thr115Phe, Asp129Gly	62.6
Ser53Leu, Leu248Ile, Val289Ala	68.8
Thr61Ser, Asn159Asp, Val289Ala	67.1
FcRm57b	61.7

Example 48

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm61)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 47, Glu118Asp, Thr165Met, Gln246Lys, and Val289Asp that 60 were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected.

The substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm57b described in Example 43 to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm61 in which 61 amino acids of a wild-type Fc 65 binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, in order to cause

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amino acid substitutions shown as Glu118Asp and Gln246Lys, oligonucleotides described below were used. (i) amino acid substitution Glu118Asp: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 166 (5'-TACAAGCGGGTCGCCTTCGATTAAA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 167 (5'-TTTAATCGAAGGCGACCCGCTTGTA-3') (ii) amino acid substitution Gln246Lys: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 168 (5)

(ii) amino acid substitution Gln246Lys: an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 168 (5'-GGCTAAAATCTTATACTCACTCGAG-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 169 (5'-CTCGAGTGAGTATAAGATTTTAGCC-3')

(1) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm57b produced by screening in Example 47 was subjected to an additional substitution shown as Thr165Met. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 168 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m61p1.

(2) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm57b obtained by screening in Example 47 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Leu217Gln and Val289Asp. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 169 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C.
35 in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m61p2.

(3) Two types of the PCR products m61p1 and m61p2
40 were purified and mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The
45 PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m61p3.

(4) The m61p3 was purified. The PCR was carried out suring the purified m61p3 as a template and the oligonucle-otide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 166 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m61p4.

(5) The m61p3 was purified. The PCR was carried out using the purified m61p3 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 167 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ

ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as 5 m61p5.

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- (6) Two types of the PCR products m61p4 and m61p5 were purified and mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. 10 in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the 15 sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR 20 product was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein FcRm61 in which 61 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.
- (7) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm61 was 25 of Val289Asp is at position 307. digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (8) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μg/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm61 containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm61.
- (9) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm61 was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3. The amino acid sequence of FcRm61 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 170, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm61 is shown in SEQ 40 ID NO: 171. In SEQ ID NO: 170, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm61 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the 45 polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 170, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 50 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at position 59, leucine of His42Leu is at position 60, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, alanine of Ser51Ala is at position 69, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, arginine of Leu58Arg is at position 76, aspartic acid of 55 Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, phenylalanine of Tyr70Phe is at position 88, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, alanine of Ser111Ala is at position 129, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, isoleucine of Thr115Ile is at position 133, aspartic acid of 65 Glu118Asp is at position 136, valine of Ala121Val is at position 139, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146,

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histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, phenylalanine of Tyr137Phe is at position 155, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Ser151Thr is at position 169, threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, methionine of Thr165Met is at position 183, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, serine of Thr184Ser is at position 202, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, alanine of Thr199Ala is at position 217, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, proline of Leu207Pro is at position 225, valine of Glu213Val is at position 231, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, phenylalanine of Tyr230Phe is at position 248, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, glycine of Ser233Gly is at position 251, glutamic acid of

Lys234Glu is at position 252, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, lysine of Gln246Lys is at position 264, alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Leu270Val is at position 288, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303, and aspartic acid

Example 49

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm60c)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 47, Thr165Met, Leu217Gln, and Val289Asp that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm57b described in Example 43 to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm60c in which 60 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 172 (5'-AGCAATGGTACATCCCGCTGTGGGA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 173 (5'-TCCCACAGCGGGATGTACCATT-GCT-3') were used for amino acid substitution shown as Thr165Met.

- (1) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm57b obtained by screening in Example 47 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Leu217Gln and Val289Asp. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 172 were used as PCR primers to carry out the PCR. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m60 cp1.
- (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template a plasmid alanine of Thr73Ala is at position 91, glutamic acid of 60 containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which the Fc binding protein FcRm57b obtained by screening in Example 47 was subjected to additional substitutions shown as Leu217Gln and Val289Asp, and as PCR primers the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 173 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the

first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m60 cp2.

- (3) Two types of the PCR products m60 cp1 and m60 cp2 5 were purified. The purified m60 cp1 and m60 cp2 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the 10 PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was purified to obtain a polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein FcRm60c 20 in which 60 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.
- (4) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm60c was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which 25 had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (5) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was 30 extracted from the cultured bacterial cells to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm60c containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm60c.
- (6) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm60c was analyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm60c plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 174, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm60c is shown in SEQ ID NO: 175. In SEQ ID NO: 174, the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to 40 alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm60c is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 174, proline 45 of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at position 59, leucine of His42Leu is at position 60, proline of 50 Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, alanine of Ser51Ala is at position 69, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, arginine of Leu58Arg is at position 76, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala 55 is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, phenylalanine of Tyr70Phe is at position 88, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, alanine of Thr73Ala is at position 91, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at 60 position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, alanine of Ser111Ala is at position 129, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, isoleucine of Thr115Ile is at position 133, valine of Ala121Val is at position 139, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146, histidine of Tyr133His is at 65 position 151, phenylalanine of Tyr137Phe is at position 155, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of

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Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Ser151Thr is at position 169, threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, methionine of Thr165Met is at position 183, arginine of Lys173Arg is at position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, serine of Thr184Ser is at position 202, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, alanine of Thr199Ala is at position 217, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, proline of Leu207Pro is at position 225, valine of Glu213Val is at position 231, glutamine of Leu217Gln is at position 235, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, phenylalanine of Tyr230Phe is at position 248, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, glycine of Ser233Gly is at position 251, glutamic acid of Lys234Glu is at position 252, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Leu270Val is at position 288, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303, and aspartic acid of Val289Asp is at position

Example 50

Production of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm62)

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 47, Glu118Asp, Thr165Met, Leu217Gln, Gln246Lys, and Val289Asp that were amino acid substitutions involved in improved stability were selected. The selected substitutions were integrated with respect to the FcRm57b described in Example 43 to produce an Fc binding protein FcRm62 in which 62 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids. Thus, stability was further improved. Further, in order to cause amino acid substitution shown as Glu118Asp, the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 167 was used. Further, in order to cause amino acid substitution shown as Gln246Lys, the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 168 was used.

- (1) The PCR was carried out using the plasmid pETFcRm60c of Example 49 as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 167 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 168 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was designated as m62p1.
- (2) The PCR product m62 μl was purified and mixed in each of purified PCR products m61p4 and m61p2 of Example 48. The PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 7, and the PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 50° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 4. The PCR product was purified to obtain

a polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein FcRm62 in which 62 amino acids of a wild-type Fc binding protein were substituted with amino acids.

- (3) The polynucleotide encoding the FcRm62 was digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and 5 ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (4) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB $_{10}$ medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) to obtain a plasmid pETFcRm62 containing the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm62.
- (5) The nucleotide sequence of pETFcRm62 was ana- 15 lyzed in the same manner as in Example 3.

The amino acid sequence of FcRm62 plus a signal sequence and a polyhistidine tag is shown in SEQ ID NO: 176, and the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the FcRm62 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 177. In SEQ ID NO: 176, 20 the MalE signal peptide is from methionine at position 1 to alanine at position 26, the linker peptide is from lysine at position 27 to glycine at position 33, the amino acid sequence of FcRm62 is from glutamine at position 34 to valine at position 307, and the polyhistidine tag is histidine 25 at positions 308 to 313. Further, in SEQ ID NO: 176, proline of Thr20Pro that is a substituted amino acid is at position 38, lysine of Thr25Lys is at position 43, leucine of Gln35Leu is at position 53, glycine of Glu36Gly is at position 54, serine of Thr38Ser is at position 56, methionine of Leu41Met is at 30 position 59, leucine of His42Leu is at position 60, proline of Leu46Pro is at position 64, serine of Pro49Ser is at position 67, alanine of Ser51Ala is at position 69, glycine of Ser52Gly is at position 70, arginine of Leu58Arg is at position 76, aspartic acid of Gly60Asp is at position 78, 35 isoleucine of Thr63Ile is at position 81, alanine of Thr65Ala is at position 83, threonine of Ser69Thr is at position 87, phenylalanine of Tyr70Phe is at position 88, histidine of Arg71His is at position 89, alanine of Thr73Ala is at position 91, glutamic acid of Val77Glu is at position 95, aspartic acid 40 of Asn78Asp is at position 96, leucine of Gln97Leu is at position 115, valine of Ile100Val is at position 118, alanine of Ser111Ala is at position 129, leucine of Phe114Leu is at position 132, isoleucine of Thr115Ile is at position 133, aspartic acid of Glu118Asp is at position 136, valine of 45 Ala121Val is at position 139, arginine of Lys128Arg is at position 146, histidine of Tyr133His is at position 151, phenylalanine of Tyr137Phe is at position 155, histidine of Arg139His is at position 157, arginine of Trp149Arg is at position 167, threonine of Ser151Thr is at position 169, 50 threonine of Asn152Thr is at position 170, proline of Leu156Pro is at position 174, arginine of Lys157Arg is at position 175, threonine of Ile160Thr is at position 178, serine of Asn163Ser is at position 181, methionine of Thr165Met is at position 183, arginine of Lys173Arg is at 55 position 191, threonine of Ile181Thr is at position 199, leucine of Ser182Leu is at position 200, serine of Thr184Ser is at position 202, threonine of Asn195Thr is at position 213, alanine of Thr199Ala is at position 217, threonine of Asn206Thr is at position 224, proline of Leu207Pro is at 60 position 225, valine of Glu213Val is at position 231, glutamine of Leu217Gln is at position 235, isoleucine of Leu218Ile is at position 236, phenylalanine of Tyr230Phe is at position 248, lysine of Met231Lys is at position 249, glycine of Ser233Gly is at position 251, glutamic acid of 65 Lys234Glu is at position 252, aspartic acid of Asn240Asp is at position 258, lysine of Gln246Lys is at position 264,

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alanine of Thr249Ala is at position 267, valine of Leu270Val is at position 288, histidine of Leu283His is at position 301, glutamine of Leu285Gln is at position 303, and aspartic acid of Val289Asp is at position 307.

Example 51

Evaluation of Productivity of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm61, FcRm60c, and FcRm62)

The transformants produced in Examples 2 and 48 to 50 were prepared in the same manner as in Example 14. The productivities of Fc binding proteins measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12 (4) were compared as the production amount (mg/L-broth medium/OD600) per turbidity (Optical Density at 600 nm, OD600) of the culture broth.

The results are shown in FIG. 22. FcR in FIG. 22 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2.

The FcRm61, FcRm60c, and FcRm62 that were the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformants produced in Examples 48 to 50 was confirmed to have higher productivity than the wild-type Fc binding protein. The results in FIG. 22 reveal that the productivity of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 52

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm61, FcRm60c, and FcRm62) Against Alkali

- (1) The Fc binding proteins (FcRm61, FcRm60c, and FcRm62) and a wild-type Fc binding protein were prepared by the method described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (2) Each of the Fc binding proteins was diluted so that the concentration was 5 μ g/mL. To each of the resultant, an equal amount of a 600 mM sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 180 minutes.
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample which was not alkali-treated in (2) for comparison were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (4) The antibody binding activity of the alkali-treated sample was divided by the antibody binding activity of the sample not alkali-treated to obtain a percentage of remaining activity of each of Fc binding proteins by alkali treatment.
- FIG. 23 shows a result of comparison of stability against alkali. FcR in FIG. 23 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm57b in FIG. 23 shows the Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 43. The FcRm61, FcRm60c, and FcRm62 that were the Fc binding proteins expressed by the transformants produced in Examples 48 to 50 were confirmed to have higher stability against alkali than the FcR and FcRm57b. The result in FIG. 23 reveals that the alkali stability of the Fc binding protein is improved by integration of amino acid substitutions (mutation) involved in improved stability.

Example 53

Evaluation of Thermal Stability of Fc Binding Proteins (FcRm32, FcRm36b, FcRm44, FcRm48, FcRm54b, FcRm56b, and FcRm57b)

The Fc binding proteins (FcRm32, FcRm36b, FcRm44, FcRm48, FcRm54b, FcRm56b, and FcRm57b) produced in Examples 13, 18, 23, 28, 33, 38, and 43 were prepared by the method described in Example 9. The transition midpoints ¹⁰ (Tm) of the prepared Fc binding proteins were measured by the method same as in Example 10. The results thus obtained are shown in Table 18.

TABLE 18

Fc binding protein	Transition midpoint (Tm)(° C.)
FcR	48.5
FcRm32	73.0
FcRm36b	77.3
FcRm44	78.1
FcRm48	78.2
FcRm54b	80.0
FcRm56b	81.9
FcRm57b	79.4

FcR in FIG. **18** shows an Fc binding protein with no amino acid substitution (Fc receptor) expressed by the transformant produced in Example 2. The Fc binding proteins (FcRm32, FcRm36b, FcRm44, FcRm48, FcRm54b, ³⁰ FcRm56b, and FcRm57b) produced in Examples 13, 18, 23, 28, 33, 38, and 43 were confirmed to have increased Tm and improved thermal stability in comparison with this wild-type Fc binding protein.

Example 54

Evaluation of Acid Stability of Fc Binding Proteins (FcRm19, FcRm32, FcRm36b, FcRm44, FcRm48, FcRm54b, FcRm56b, FcRm57b, FcRm60c, FcRm61, and FcRm62)

- (1) The wild-type Fc binding protein and Fc binding proteins produced in Examples 2, 7(d), 13, 18, 23, 28, 33, 38, 43, 48, 49, and 50 were prepared by the method 45 described in Example 14, and the concentrations thereof were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4)
- (2) Each of the Fc binding proteins was diluted so that the concentration was 2 μ g/mL. To each resultant, an equal 50 amount of a 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) was added and the mixture was allowed to stand at 25° C. for 24 hours.
- (3) After standing, the pH was adjusted to a neutral region with 1M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0), and the antibody binding activities of the alkali-treated sample in (2) and a sample 55 which was not acid-treated (2) for comparison were measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).
- (4) The antibody binding activities of the acid-treated samples were divided by the antibody binding activities of the samples not treated with acid to obtain percentages of 60 remaining activity of each Fc binding proteins by acid treatment.
- FIG. 24 shows a result of comparison of stability against acid. FcR in FIG. 24 shows the wild-type Fc binding protein expressed by the transformant in Example 2. FcRm19, 65 FcRm32, FcRm36b, FcRm44, FcRm48, FcRm54b, FcRm56b, FcRm57b, FcRm60c, FcRm61, and FcRm62 in

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FIG. **24** show the Fc binding proteins expressed by the transformants produced in Examples 7(d), 13, 18, 23, 28, 33, 38, 43, 49, 48, and 50. The Fc binding proteins were confirmed to have higher stability against acid than that of the wild-type Fc binding protein.

Example 55

Production of Fc Binding Protein Having Leu46 Substituted with Amino Acid

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved thermal stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 5, the substitution of leucine at position 46 (Leu46) in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 with proline (Pro) has particularly remarkably improved thermal stability (Table 6). In order to reevaluate the availability of substitution of leucine at position 46, a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding an Fc binding protein in which leucine at position 46 was substituted with another amino acid and a transformant thereof was produced. Further, an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 178 (5'-ACGTTGCACTGCGAAGTANNKCATCT-GCCTGGG-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 179 (5'-ACTTGACCCA-GGCAGATGMNNTACTTCGCAGTG-3') were used to substitute the leucine at position 46 with an arbitrary amino

(1) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the wild-type Fc binding protein produced in Example 2. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 179 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using a reaction solution composition shown in Table 19. The PCR product was designated as L46p1.

TABLE 19

Composition	Concentration
Template DNA	Proper quantity
100 pmol/μL PCR primer	Each 1 μL
2.5 U/µL PrimeSTAR HS (Takara Bio)	0.5 μL
5 × PrimeSTAR buffer (Takara Bio)	10 μL
2.5 mM dNTPs	4 μL
H ₂ O	up to 50 μL

- (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the wild-type Fc binding protein produced in Example 2. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 178 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 19. The PCR product was designated as L46p2.
- (3) Two types of the PCR products L46 µl and L46p2 were purified. The purified L46 µl and L46p2 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 20, and the

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PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 19. A polynucleotide encoding the Fc binding protein in which the amino acid at position 46 of the wild-type Fc binding protein was substituted with an arbitrary amino acid was obtained. The PCR product was designated as L46p3.

TABLE 20

Composition	Concentration
PCR Product	Each equimolar
2.5 U/µL PrimeSTAR HS (Takara Bio)	0.5 μL
5 × PrimeSTAR buffer (Takara Bio)	6 μL
2.5 mM dNTPs	2.4 μL
H ₂ O	up to 30 μL

- (4) The L46p3 was purified and digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE (FIG. 4) which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (5) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) and sequence analysis was carried out by the method described in Example 3. As a result, a transformant expressing an Fc 35 binding protein in which the leucine (Leu) at position 46 was substituted with alanine (Ala), arginine (Arg), asparagine (Asn), aspartic acid (Asp), glutamine (Gln), glycine (gly), histidine (His), isoleucine (ILe), lysine (Lys), proline (Pro), serine (Ser), or tryptophan (Trp) was obtained.

Example 56

Evaluation of Activity of Fc Binding Protein Having Leu46 Substituted with Amino Acid

- (1) The transformant was inoculated into 200 W, of an LB broth medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 50 W, of the culture broth was subcultured into 500 μ L of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. 55 overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) five times, and the antibody binding activity was measured by the ELISA method described in Example 60 12(4).

The results are shown in Table 21. Table 21 reveals that the activity is improved by substituting the leucine (Leu) at position 46 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 with Ala, Arg, Asn, Asp, Gln, Gly, His, Lys, Pro, Ser, 65 or Trp. The substitution with Asp, Pro, or Ser is preferable, and the substitution with Pro is more preferable.

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TABLE 21

	Amino acid substitution	OD450 nm	
	Ala	0.39	
	Arg	0.35	
	Asn	0.38	
	Asp	0.45	
	Gln	0.29	
	Gly	0.31	
)	His	0.29	
	Ile	0.14	
	Lys	0.35	
	Pro	0.53	
	Ser	0.43	
	Trp	0.29	
	Leu	0.22	
,			

Example 57

Production of Fc Binding Protein Having Phe114 Substituted with Amino Acid

From the amino acid substitutions involved in improved thermal stability of the Fc binding protein shown in Example 5, the substitutions of phenylalanine at position 114 (Phe114) in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 with leucine (Leu) has particularly remarkably improved thermal stability (Table 6). In order to reevaluate the availability of substitution of phenylalanine at position 114, a plasmid containing a polynucleotide encoding a modified Fc binding protein in which phenylalanine at position 114 was substituted with another amino acid and a transformant thereof was produced. Further, an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 180 (5'-CAGGTTAGCTCCCGCGTTNNKACCGAAGGCGA-3') and an oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 181 (5'-AAGCGGTTCGCCTTCGGTMN-NAACGCGGGAGC-3') were used to substitute the phenylalanine at position 114 with an arbitrary amino acid.

- (1) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the wild-type Fc binding protein produced in Example 2. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 181 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 19. The PCR product was designated as F114p1.
 - (2) The PCR was carried out using as a template the plasmid pETFcR containing the polynucleotide encoding the wild-type Fc binding protein produced in Example 2. The oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 180 and the oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 69 were used as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 19. The PCR product was designated as F114p2.
 - (3) Two types of the PCR products F114 µl and F114p2 were purified. The purified F114 µl and F114p2 were mixed, the PCR was carried out for 5 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5 seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C. in the third step using the reaction solution composition shown in Table 20, and the

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TABLE 22-continued

PCR products were ligated. The PCR was carried out using
this PCR product as a template and the oligonucleotide
including the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 68 and the
oligonucleotide including the sequence shown in SEQ ID
NO: 69 as PCR primers. The PCR was carried out for 30
cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 98° C. in the first step, 5
seconds at 55° C. in the second step, and 1 minute at 72° C.
in the third step using the reaction solution composition
shown in Table 19. A polynucleotide encoding the Fc
binding protein in which the amino acid at position 114 of
the wild-type Fc binding protein was substituted with an
arbitrary amino acid was obtained. The PCR product was
designated as F114p3.

- (4) The F114p3 was purified and digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII, and ligated into the expression vector pETMalE which had been digested with the restriction enzymes NcoI and HindIII and described in Example 2. *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with this product.
- (5) The obtained transformant was cultured in LB medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin. A plasmid was extracted from the cultured bacterial cells (transformant) and sequence analysis was carried out by the method described in Example 3. As a result, a transformant expressing an Fc binding protein in which the phenylalanine (Phe) at position 114 was substituted with alanine (Ala), arginine (Arg), aspartic acid (Asp), cysteine (Cys), glutamine (Gln), glutamic acid (Glu), glycine (gly), histidine (His), isoleucine (ILe), leucine (Leu), lysine (Lys), methionine (Met), proline (Pro), serine (Ser), threonine (Thr), tryptophan (Trp), tyrosine (Tyr), or valine (Val) was obtained.

Example 58

Evaluation of Activity of Fc Binding Protein Having Phe114 Substituted with Amino Acid

- (1) The transformant was inoculated into 200 μ L of an LB broth medium containing 50 μ g/mL of kanamycin, and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 37° C. overnight.
- (2) After the culturing, 50 μL of the culture broth was subcultured into 500 μL of 2YT broth medium (containing 0.05 mM IPTG, 0.3% glycine, and 50 $\mu g/mL$ of kanamycin), and was shake-cultured using a 96-deep well plate at 20° C. overnight.
- (3) After the culturing, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifugation was diluted with 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 8.0) five times, and the antibody binding activity was measured by the ELISA method described in Example 12(4).

The results are shown in Table 22. As shown from Table 22, the activity was confirmed to be improved by substituting the phenylalanine (Phe) at position 114 in the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 with Ala, Ile, Leu, Met, Pro, Thr, or Val. The substitution with Ile, Leu, Met, or Val is preferable, and the substitution with Ile, Leu, or Val is more preferable.

TABLE 22

Amino acid substitution	OD450 nm
Ala Aro	0.19 0.08
Arg Asp	0.05

Amino acid substitution	OD450 nm
Cys	0.05
Gln	0.13
Glu	0.09
Gly	0.06
His	0.06
Ile	0.87
Leu	0.50
Lys	0.07
Met	0.43
Pro	0.16
Ser	0.10
Thr	0.24
Trp	0.05
Tyr	0.08
Val	0.74
Phe	0.14

Example 59

Immobilization of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm19) in Gel

- (1) An Fc binding protein FcRm19 was prepared using the transformant produced in Example 7(d) by the method described in Example 9.
- (2) 0.4 mL of the obtained 6.9 mg/mL FcRm19 solution and 0.1 mL of Toyopearl gel (Tosoh Corp.) with epoxy groups introduced were mixed, and a potassium phosphate buffer was added so that the final concentration was 0.6 M, to cause a reaction at 20° C. for 14 hours.
- (3) After the reaction, a reaction residue was removed 35 from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: $10~\mu m),$ and the gel was washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) to prepare a gel with immobilized FcRm19.
 - (4) The amount of an Fc binding protein as the reaction residue was determined by the Bradford method (protein assay kit, BioRad). An immobilization rate was calculated by dividing the amount by the amount of charged Fc binding protein.

As a result, an immobilization rate of 83.3% and an amount of immobilized FcRm19 per mL of the gel of 23.0 mg were confirmed.

Example 60

Evaluation of Adsorption of Antibody in Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm19)

- (1) 0.5 mL of 10 mg/mL γ -globulin formulation (KAKET-SUKEN, hereinafter referred to as IgG) dissolved in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added to 0.1 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm19) prepared in Example 59, followed by shaking at 15° C. for 1 hour.
- (2) After the shaking, the IgG solution was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: $10~\mu m$), and the gel was washed with 0.2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) five times.
 - (3) The gel was finally rinsed with 0.2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) three times to elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel.
 - The amount of the eluted IgG was determined to be 2.10 mg by measurement of absorbance at 280 nm (calculated as an absorbance of 1% IgG solution of 14 using a 10-mm cell).

As a result, the amount of adsorbed IgG per mL of the gel with immobilized FcRm19 prepared in Example 59 was confirmed to be 21.0 mg.

Example 61

Evaluation of Elution of Antibody from Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm19)

- (1) A column was packed with 0.1 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm19) prepared in Example 59, and 3 mg/mL IgG dissolved in 2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added to allow the gel to adsorb IgG.
- (2) The column was sufficiently washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0), and 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer having an arbitrary pH within a range of 3.0 to 4.2 was passed through 15 the column to elute IgG (referred to as an eluate 1).
- (3) 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) was finally passed to completely elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel (referred to as an eluate 2).
- (4) The amounts of IgG in the eluates 1 and 2 were 20 determined by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60, and percentages of IgG elution in the eluates with various pHs were determined on the basis of the following equation 1:

 $R = A/(A+B) \times 100$

In the equation 1,

R: percentage of IgG elution (%)

A: amount of IgG in eluate 1

B: amount of IgG in eluate 2

As a result, the percentages of antibody elution at pHs of 30 3.0, 3.4, 3.8, and 4.2 were 99.1%, 87.4%, 51.3%, and 22.0%, respectively. FIG. 25 shows the results of percentages of antibody elution at each pH.

Example 62

Immobilization of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32) in

- transformant produced in Example 13 by the method described in Example 9
- (2) 0.3 mL of the obtained 8.1 mg/mL Fc binding protein (FcRm32) solution and 0.1 mL of Toyopearl gel (Tosoh Corp.) with an epoxy group introduced were mixed, and a 45 potassium phosphate buffer was added so that the final concentration was $1.0\,M$, to cause a reaction at $20^{\circ}\,\mathrm{C}$. for $14\,$
- (3) After the reaction, a reaction residue was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), 50 and the gel was washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) to prepare a gel with immobilized FcRm32.
- (4) The amount of FcRm32 as the reaction residue was determined by the Bradford method, and an immobilization rate was calculated by dividing the amount by the amount of 55 the transformant produced in Example 18 by the method charged Fc binding protein.

As a result, an immobilization rate of 79.3% and an amount of immobilized FcRm32 per mL of the gel of 19.3 mg were confirmed.

Example 63

Evaluation of Adsorption of Antibody in Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32)

(1) 0.5 mL of 10 mg/mL IgG dissolved in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added to 0.1 mL of the gel with immobilized 94

Fc binding protein (FcRm32) prepared in Example 62 followed by shaking at 15° C. for 1 hour.

- (2) After the shaking, the IgG solution was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), and the gel was washed with 0.2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) five
- (3) The gel was finally rinsed with 0.2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) three times to elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel.

The amount of eluted IgG was determined to be 1.98 mg by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60. As a result, the amount of adsorbed IgG per mL of the gel with immobilized FcRm32 prepared in Example 62 was confirmed to be 19.8 mg.

Example 64

Evaluation of Elution of Antibody from Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32)

- (1) A column was packed with 0.1 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm32) prepared in Example 62, and 3 mg/mL IgG (KAKETSUKEN) dissolved (1) 25 in 2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was passed through the column to adsorb IgG by the gel.
 - (2) The column was sufficiently washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0), and 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer having an arbitrary pH within a range of 3.0 to 4.2 was passed through the column to elute IgG (referred to as an eluate 1).
 - (3) 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) was finally passed to completely elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel (referred to as an eluate 2).
 - (4) The amounts of IgG in the eluates 1 and 2 were 35 determined by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60, and percentages of IgG elution in the eluates with various pHs were determined on the basis of the equation 1 described in Example 61.

As a result, the percentages of antibody elution at pHs of (1) An Fc binding protein FcRm32 was prepared using the 40 3.0, 3.4, 3.8, and 4.2 were 98.7%, 99.3%, 97.9%, and 82.8%, respectively. The elution of IgG in a buffer having higher pH (more neutral) was confirmed to be largely improved as compared with the evaluation of elution of an antibody in the gel with immobilized FcRm19 carried out in Example 59. FIG. 26 shows a comparison of percentages of antibody elution in the gel with immobilized FcRm32 at each pH with those in the gel with immobilized FcRm19.

Example 65

Immobilization of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b) in Gel

- (1) An Fc binding protein FcRm36b was prepared using described in Example 9.
- (2) 0.1 mL of obtained 15.5 mg/mL FcRm36b solution and 0.05 mL of Toyopearl gel (Tosoh Corp.) with epoxy groups introduced were mixed, and a potassium phosphate 60 buffer was added so that the final concentration was 0.8 M, to cause a reaction at 35° C. for 5 hours.
 - (3) After the reaction, a reaction residue was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), and the gel was washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) to prepare a gel with immobilized FcRm36b.
 - (4) The amount of the Fc binding protein as the reaction residue was determined by the Bradford method. An immo-

bilization rate was calculated by dividing the amount by the amount of charged Fc binding protein.

As a result, an immobilization rate of 67.7% and an amount of immobilized FcRm36b per mL of the gel of 21.0 mg were confirmed.

Example 66

Evaluation of Adsorption of Antibody in Gel with immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b)

- (1) 0.5 mL of 10 mg/mL IgG dissolved in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added to 0.05 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm36b) prepared in Example 65 followed by shaking at 15° C. for 1 hour.
- (2) After the shaking, the IgG solution was removed from 15 the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), and the gel was washed with 0.2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) five times.
- (3) The gel was finally rinsed with 0.2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) three times to elute the IgG 20 adsorbed by the gel.

The amount of eluted IgG was determined to be 1.44 mg by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60. As a result, the amount of adsorbed IgG per mL of the gel with immobilized FcRm36b prepared in Example 25 65 was confirmed to be 28.8 mg.

Example 67

Evaluation of Elution of Antibody from Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm36b)

- (1) A column was packed with 0.05 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm36b) prepared in Example 65, and 3 mg/mL IgG (KAKETSUKEN) dissolved 35 in 2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was passed through the column to allow the gel to adsorb IgG.
- (2) The column was sufficiently washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0), and 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer having an arbitrary pH within a range of 3.0 to 4.2 was passed through 40 the column to elute IgG (referred to as an eluate 1).
- (3) 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) was finally passed to completely elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel (referred to as an eluate 2).
- determined by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60, and percentages of IgG elution in the eluates with various pHs were determined on the basis of the equation 1 described in Example 61.

As a result, the percentages of antibody elution at pHs of 50 3.0, 3.4, 3.8, and 4.2 were 99.5%, 99.4%, 92.2%, and 64.0%, respectively. As a result, the elution of IgG in a buffer having higher pH (more neutral) was confirmed to be largely improved as compared with the evaluation of elution of an antibody in the gel with immobilized FcRm19 carried out in 55 Example 59. FIG. 27 shows a comparison of percentages of antibody elution in the gel with immobilized FcRm36b at each pH with those in the gel with immobilized FcRm19.

Example 68

Immobilization of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48) in Gel

(1) An Fc binding protein FcRm48 was prepared using the 65 transformant produced in Example 28 by the method described in Example 9.

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- (2) 0.1 mL of obtained 8.8 mg/mL FcRm48 solution and 0.05 mL of Toyopearl gel (Tosoh Corp.) with epoxy groups introduced were mixed, and a potassium, phosphate buffer was added so that the final concentration was 0.8 M, to cause a reaction at 35° C. for 5 hours.
- (3) After the reaction, a reaction residue was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), and the gel was washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) to prepare a gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm48).
- (4) The amount of an Fc binding protein as the reaction residue was determined by the Bradford method, and an immobilization rate was calculated by dividing the amount by the amount of charged Fc binding protein.

As a result, an immobilization rate of 77.3% and an amount of immobilized FcRm48 per mL of the gel of 13.6 mg were confirmed.

Example 69

Evaluation of Adsorption of Antibody in Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48)

- (1) 0.5 mL of 10 mg/mL IgG dissolved in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added to 0.05 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm48) prepared in Example 68 followed by shaking at 15° C. for 1 hour.
- (2) After that, the IgG solution was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 μm), and the gel was washed with 0.2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) five times.
- (3) The gel was finally rinsed with 0.2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) three times to elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel.

The amount of eluted IgG was determined to be 0.94 mg by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60. As a result, the amount of adsorbed IgG per mL of the gel with immobilized FcRm48 prepared in Example 68 was confirmed to be 18.8 mg.

Example 70

Evaluation of Elution of Antibody from Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm48)

- (1) A column was packed with 0.05 mL of the gel with (4) The amounts of IgG in the eluates 1 and 2 were 45 immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm48) prepared in Example 68, and 3 mg/mL IgG (KAKETSUKEN) dissolved in 2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was passed through the column to allow the gel to adsorb IgG.
 - (2) The column was sufficiently washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0), and 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer having an arbitrary pH within a range of 3.0 to 4.2 was passed through the column to elute IgG (referred to as an eluate 1).
 - (3) 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) was finally passed to completely elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel (referred to as an eluate 2).
 - (4) The amounts of IgG in the eluates 1 and 2 were determined by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60, and a percentage of IgG elution in the eluates with various pHs was determined on the basis of 60 the equation 1 described in Example 61.

As a result, the percentages of antibody elution at pHs of 3.0, 3.4, 3.8, and 4.2 were 99.2%, 100.0%, 98.2%, and 81.9%, respectively. As a result, the elution of IgG in a buffer having higher pH (more neutral) was confirmed to be largely improved as compared with the evaluation of elution of an antibody in the gel with immobilized FcRm19 carried out in Example 59. FIG. 28 shows a comparison of percentages of

antibody elution in the gel with immobilized FcRm48 at each pH with those in the gel with immobilized FcRm19.

Example 71

Immobilization of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b) in Gel

- (1) An Fc binding protein FcRm56b was prepared using the transformant produced in Example 38 by the method 10 described in Example 9.
- (2) 1.0 mL of obtained 13.2 mg/mL FcRm56b solution and 0.5 mL of Toyopearl gel (Tosoh Corp.) with epoxy groups introduced were mixed, and a potassium phosphate buffer was added so that the final concentration was 0.8 M, 15 to cause a reaction at 35° C. for 5 hours.
- (3) After the reaction, a reaction residue was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), and the gel was washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) to prepare a gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm56b).
- (4) The amount of an Fc binding protein as the reaction residue was determined by the Bradford method. An immobilization rate was calculated by dividing the amount by the amount of charged Fc binding protein.

As a result, an immobilization rate of 70.8% and an 25 amount of immobilized FcRm56b per mL of the gel of 18.7 mg were confirmed.

Example 72

Evaluation of Adsorption of Antibody in Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b)

- (1) 3.0 mL of 10 mg/mL IgG dissolved in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added to 0.5 mL of the gel with immobilized 35 Fc binding protein (FcRm56b) prepared in Example 71 followed by shaking at 15° C. for 1 hour.
- (2) After the shaking, the IgG solution was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), and the gel was washed with 1.0 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) five 40
- (3) The gel was finally rinsed with 1.0 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) three times to elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel.

The amount of eluted IgG was determined to be 11.5 mg 45 by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60. As a result, the amount of adsorbed IgG per mL of the gel with immobilized FcRm56b prepared in Example 71 was confirmed to be 23.0 mg.

Example 73

Evaluation of Elution of Antibody from Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b)

- (1) A column was packed with 0.1 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm56b) prepared in Example 71, and 3 mg/mL IgG (KAKETSUKEN) dissolved in 2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was passed through the column to allow the gel to adsorb IgG.
- (2) The column was sufficiently washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0), and 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer having an arbitrary pH within a range of 3.0 to 4.2 was passed through the column to elute IgG (referred to as an eluate 1).
- (3) 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) was finally 65 passed to completely elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel (referred to as an eluate 2).

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(4) The amounts of IgG in the eluates 1 and 2 were determined by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60, and percentages of IgG elution in the eluates with various pHs were determined on the basis of the equation 1 described in Example 61.

As a result, the percentages of antibody elution at pHs of 3.0, 3.4, 3.8, and 4.2 were 99.7%, 99.5%, 94.5%, and 73.0%, respectively. As a result, the elution of IgG in a buffer having higher pH (more neutral) was confirmed to be largely improved as compared with the evaluation of elution of an antibody in the gel with immobilized FcRm19 carried out in Example 59. FIG. 29 shows a comparison of percentages of antibody elution in the gel with immobilized FcRm56b at each pH with those in the gel with immobilized FcRm19.

Example 74

Immobilization of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b) in Gel

- (1) An Fc binding protein FcRm57b was prepared using the transformant produced in Example 43 by the method described in Example 9.
- (2) 1.0 mL of obtained 8.9 mg/mL FcRm57b solution and 0.4 mL of Toyopearl gel (Tosoh Corp.) with epoxy groups introduced were mixed, and a potassium phosphate buffer was added so that the final concentration was 0.8 M, to cause a reaction at 35° C. for 5 hours.
- (3) After the reaction, a reaction residue was removed from the gel by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 µm), $^{30}~$ and the gel was washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) to prepare a gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm57b).
 - (4) The amount of an Fc binding protein as the reaction residue was determined by the Bradford method. An immobilization rate was calculated by dividing the amount by the amount of charged Fc binding protein.

As a result, an immobilization rate of 64.0% and an amount of immobilized FcRm57b per mL of the gel of 14.2 mg were confirmed.

Example 75

Evaluation of Adsorption of Antibody in Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b)

- (1) 3.0 mL of 10 mg/mL IgG dissolved in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added to 0.4 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm57b) prepared in Example 74 followed by shaking at 15° C. for 1 hour.
- (2) After that, the IgG solution was removed from the gel 50 by filtration through a filter (pore size: 10 μm), and the gel was washed with 1.0 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) five times.
 - (3) The gel was finally rinsed with 1.0 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) three times to elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel.

The amount of eluted IgG was determined to be 6.67 mg by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60. As a result, the amount of adsorbed IgG per mL of the gel with immobilized FcRm56b prepared in Example 74 was confirmed to be 16.7 mg.

Example 76

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Evaluation of Elution of Antibody from Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm57b)

(1) A column was packed with 0.1 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm57b) prepared in

Example 74, and 3 mg/mL IgG (KAKETSUKEN) dissolved in 2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was passed through the column to allow the gel to adsorb IgG.

- (2) The column was sufficiently washed with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0), and 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer having an arbitrary pH within a range of 3.0 to 4.2 was passed through the column to elute IgG (referred to as an eluate 1).
- (3) 2 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) was finally passed to completely elute the IgG adsorbed by the gel $_{10}$ (referred to as an eluate 2).
- (4) The amounts of IgG in the eluates 1 and 2 were determined by the measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60, and percentages of IgG elution in the eluates with various pHs were determined on the basis of the equation 1 described in Example 61.

As a result, the percentages of antibody elution at pHs of 3.0, 3.4, 3.8, and 4.2 were 99.3%, 99.6%, 90.2%, and 66.2%, respectively. As a result, the elution of IgG in a buffer having 20 higher pH (more neutral) was confirmed to be largely improved as compared with the evaluation of elution of an antibody in the gel with immobilized FcRm19 carried out in Example 59. FIG. 30 shows a comparison of percentages of antibody elution in the gel with immobilized FcRm57b at 25 each pH with those in the gel with immobilized FcRm19.

Example 77

Evaluation of Stability of Fc Binding Protein (FcRm32, FcRm36b, and FcRm56b) Against Alkali

- (1) Each of the gels with immobilized Fc binding proteins produced in Examples 62, 65, and 71 was diluted with 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) to make a 20% slurry. 50 μ L of each slurry was dispensed in each of four spin columns with filter (micro bio-spin column, BioRad).
- (2) In three of the columns produced in (1), PBS was removed from the gel slurry by filtration through a filter, the $_{40}$ gel was washed with 0.15 mL of 0.1 M sodium hydroxide solution one time, and 0.15 mL of sodium hydroxide solution was added again.
- (3) After the columns were each allowed to stand at 20° C. for 1 hour, 3 hours, and 24 hours, the columns were washed with 0.2 mL of 20 mM PBS (PH 7.0) three times.
- (4) To each of the resulting columns (alkali-treating time: 0, 1, 3, and 24 hours), 10 mg/mL IgG (KAKETSUKEN) dissolved in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) was added followed by $_{\rm 50}$ shaking at 15° C. for 1 hour.
- (5) After the shaking, the IgG solution was removed from the respective gels by filtration through a filter, and the respective gels were washed with 0.2 mL of 20 mM PBS (pH 7.0) five times.
- (6) The respective gels were finally rinsed with 0.1 mL of 100 mM citric acid buffer (pH 3.0) three times to elute the IgG adsorbed by the respective gels.
- (7) The amount of eluted IgG was determined by the $_{60}$ measurement of absorbance at 280 nm described in Example 60 to calculate the amount of adsorbed IgG in each gel.

When the amount of bound IgG in a gel not alkali-treated was assumed to be 100% activity, those in the gel with immobilized FcRm32 (Example 62) which had been treated for 1, 3, and 24 hours were 63.6%, 41.8%, and 18.2%, respectively. Those in the gel with immobilized FcRm36b

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(Example 65) which had been treated for 1, 3, and 24 hours were 84.2%, 60.4%, and 16.8%, respectively. Those in the gel with immobilized FcRm56b (Example 71) which had been treated for 1, 3, and 24 hours were 96.8%, 92.1%, and 61.9%, respectively. This reveals that the stability against alkali is improved by Fc binding proteins accumulating amino acid substitutions (mutations) involved in improved stability. FIG. 31 shows the results of stability of the gel with each immobilized Fc binding protein against alkali.

Example 78

Evaluation of Repeated Stability of Gel with Immobilized Fc Binding Protein (FcRm56b)

A column was packed with 0.2 mL of the gel with immobilized Fc binding protein (FcRm56b) prepared in Example 71, and buffers were passed repeatedly through a cycle shown in Table 23. Further, buffers and an IgG solution were passed at first, 30th, 50th, 70th, 90th, 110th, 130th, and 150th passings through a cycle shown in Table 24, and the amount of adsorbed IgG in the column was calculated.

TABLE 23

Name of solution	Amount passed	Flow rate
20 mM PBS (pH 7.2)	1.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
100 mM Citric acid buffer (pH 3.5)	2.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
20 mM PBS (pH 7.2)	1.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
100 mM NaOH	3.0 mL	0.2 mL/min
H ₂ O	1.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
20 mM PBS (pH 7.2)	2.0 mL	0.5 mL/min

TABLE 24

Name of solution	Amount passed	Flow rate
20 mM PBS (pH 7.2)	0.4 mL	0.5 mL/min
3 mg/mL IgG in 20 mM PBS (pH 7.2)	2.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
20 mM PBS (pH 7.2)	3.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
100 mM Citric acid buffer (pH 3.5)	2.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
100 mM NaOH	3.0 mL	0.2 mL/min
H ₂ O	1.0 mL	0.5 mL/min
20 mM PBS (pH 7.2)	0.8 mL	0.5 mL/min

Measurement was carried out with time. When the amount of adsorbed IgG at the first passing is assumed to be 100%, the amount of adsorbed IgG in the column at 30th, 50th, 70th, 90th, 110th, 130th, and 150th passings are 98.9%, 94.7%, 89.0%, 84.9%, 84.9%, 80.2%, and 80.7%, respectively.

As a comparative example, a wild-type Fc binding protein (FcR) was prepared using the transformant prepared in Example 2 by the method described in Example 9, FcR was immobilized in 0.2 mL of gel in the same manner as in Example 59, and a column was packed with the gel. Further, buffers and an IgG solution were passed through the column through the cycle shown in Table 24, and change of amount of adsorbed IgG in the column was confirmed. The amount of adsorbed IgG in the column was measured with time. When the amount of adsorbed IgG at the first passing is regarded as 100%, the amount decreases by 60.0% at the second passing and by 41.5% at the third passing. This shows that it is actually difficult that a gel with immobilized FcR is recycled by washing with alkali. FIG. 32 shows a comparison of repeatable stability of the gel with each immobilized Fc binding protein by washing with alkali.

SEQUENCE LISTING

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Val	Phe	Gln 35	Glu	Glu	Thr	Val	Thr 40	Leu	His	Cys	Glu	Val 45	Leu	His	Leu
Pro	Gly 50	Ser	Ser	Ser	Thr	Gln 55	Trp	Phe	Leu	Asn	Gly 60	Thr	Ala	Thr	Gln
Thr 65	Ser	Thr	Pro	Ser	Tyr 70	Arg	Ile	Thr	Ser	Ala 75	Ser	Val	Asn	Asp	Ser 80
Gly	Glu	Tyr	Arg	GAa 82	Gln	Arg	Gly	Leu	Ser 90	Gly	Arg	Ser	Asp	Pro 95	Ile
Gln	Leu	Glu	Ile 100	His	Arg	Gly	Trp	Leu 105	Leu	Leu	Gln	Val	Ser 110	Ser	Arg
Val	Phe	Thr 115	Glu	Gly	Glu	Pro	Leu 120	Ala	Leu	Arg	Cys	His 125	Ala	Trp	Lys
Asp	Lys 130	Leu	Val	Tyr	Asn	Val 135	Leu	Tyr	Tyr	Arg	Asn 140	Gly	Lys	Ala	Phe
Lys 145	Phe	Phe	His	Trp	Asn 150	Ser	Asn	Leu	Thr	Ile 155	Leu	Lys	Thr	Asn	Ile 160
Ser	His	Asn	Gly	Thr 165	Tyr	His	Cys	Ser	Gly 170	Met	Gly	Lys	His	Arg 175	Tyr
Thr	Ser	Ala	Gly 180	Ile	Ser	Val	Thr	Val 185	Lys	Glu	Leu	Phe	Pro 190	Ala	Pro
Val	Leu	Asn 195	Ala	Ser	Val	Thr	Ser 200	Pro	Leu	Leu	Glu	Gly 205	Asn	Leu	Val
Thr	Leu 210	Ser	Cys	Glu	Thr	Lys 215	Leu	Leu	Leu	Gln	Arg 220	Pro	Gly	Leu	Gln
Leu 225	Tyr	Phe	Ser	Phe	Tyr 230	Met	Gly	Ser	Lys	Thr 235	Leu	Arg	Gly	Arg	Asn 240
Thr	Ser	Ser	Glu	Tyr 245	Gln	Ile	Leu	Thr	Ala 250	Arg	Arg	Glu	Asp	Ser 255	Gly
Leu	Tyr	Trp	Cys 260	Glu	Ala	Ala	Thr	Glu 265	Asp	Gly	Asn	Val	Leu 270	Lys	Arg
Ser	Pro	Glu 275	Leu	Glu	Leu	Gln	Val 280	Leu	Gly	Leu	Gln	Leu 285	Pro	Thr	Pro
Val	Trp 290	Phe	His	Val	Leu	Phe 295	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Val	Gly 300	Ile	Met	Phe	Leu
Val 305	Asn	Thr	Val	Leu	Trp 310	Val	Thr	Ile	Arg	Lys 315	Glu	Leu	Lys	Arg	Lys 320
ГÀв	Lys	Trp	Asp	Leu 325	Glu	Ile	Ser	Leu	Asp 330	Ser	Gly	His	Glu	Lys 335	Lys
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Val Ser Val Phe Gln Glu Glu Ser Val Thr Leu His Cys Glu Val Pro
His Leu Pro Gly Ser Ser Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Leu Asn Gly Thr Ala 65 70 75 75 80
Ile Gln Thr Ser Thr Pro Ser Tyr Arg Ile Thr Ser Ala Ser Val Asn
Asp Ser Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp
Pro Ile Gln Leu Glu Val His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser
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Ser Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala
Trp Lys Asp Lys Leu Val Tyr Asn Val Leu Tyr Tyr Arg Asn Gly Lys
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Ala Phe Lys Phe Phe His Trp Asn Ser Asn Leu Thr Ile Leu Lys Thr
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Asn Ile Ser His Asn Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Lys His
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Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Ile Ser Val Thr Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro
Ala Pro Val Leu Asn Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Asn
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Leu Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Glu Thr Lys Leu Leu Leu Gln Arg Pro Gly
Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Tyr Met Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly
Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp
Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu
Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly Leu Gln Leu Pro
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Thr Pro Val His His His His His
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### Set	Gly	Gln		Asp	Thr	Thr	Lys		Val	Ile	Thr	Leu		Pro	Pro	Trp
The Gln Thr Ser Thr Res	Val		Val	Phe	Gln	Glu		Ser	Val	Thr	Leu		Cys	Glu	Val	Pro
## S5		Leu	Pro	Gly	Ser		Ser	Thr	Gln	Trp		Leu	Asn	Gly	Thr	
Pro Ile Gln Leu Glu Val His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser 115 Ser Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala 130 Trp Lys Asp Lys Leu Val Tyr Asn Val Leu Tyr Tyr Arg Asn Gly Lys 165 Ala Phe Lys Phe Phe His Trp Asn Ser Asn Leu Thr Ile Leu Lys Thr 165 Asn Met Ser His Ser Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Lys His 180 Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Ile Ser Val Thr Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro 205 Ala Pro Val Leu Asn Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Asn 215 Leu Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Glu Thr Lys Leu Leu Gln Arg Pro Gly 225 Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Gly 225 Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu 285 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn 260 Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gln Leu Gln Leu Pro 295 Thr Pro Val His His His His His His His 310 **C210> SEQ ID NO 5 **C211> LENGTH: 313 **C212> TYPE: PRT **C213> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide **C40> SEQUENCE: 5 Met Lys Ile Lys Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Gly Gln Pro Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Gly Gln Pro Pro Trp 15 **Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Gly Gln Pro Pro Trp 15	Ile	Gln	Thr	Ser		Pro	Ser	Tyr	Arg		Thr	Ser	Ala	Ser		Asn
Ser Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala 130 Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala 145 Vs Asp Lys Leu Val Tyr Asn Val Leu Tyr Tyr Arg Asn Gly Lys 165 Thr 155 Thr 165 Thr 165 Thr 170 Val Leu Tyr Tyr Arg Asn Gly Lys His 180 Met Ser His Ser Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Lys His 180 Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Ile Ser Val Thr Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro 195 Pro Val Leu Asn Ala Ser Val Thr Lys Leu Leu Glu Gly Asn 2210 220 Leu Gln Arg Pro Gly 230 Erg Pro Glu Leu Glu Gly Asn 255 Arg Asp Thr 180 Fro Gly 246 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Tyr Cys Glu Ala Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Arg Arg Gly Asp 260 Arg Ser Gly Leu Tyr Tyr Cys Glu Ala Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu 275 Thr Pro Val His	Asp	Ser	Gly		Tyr	Arg	Cys	Gln		Gly	Leu	Ser	Gly		Ser	Asp
130 135 136 137 138 139 139 139 139 130 139 130 130 130 130 131 140 140 151 151 151 171 172 173 174 174 175 175 186 187 187 187 187 187 187 187 187 187 187	Pro	Ile		Leu	Glu	Val	His		Gly	Trp	Leu	Leu		Gln	Val	Ser
145	Ser		Val	Leu	Thr	Glu		Glu	Pro	Leu	Ala		Arg	Cys	His	Ala
Asn Met Ser His Ser Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Lys His 180		Lys	Asp	Lys	Leu		Tyr	Asn	Val	Leu		Tyr	Arg	Asn	Gly	
Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Ile Ser Val Thr Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro 200 Ala Pro Val Leu Asn Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Asn 210 Leu Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Glu Thr Lys Leu Leu Leu Gln Arg Pro Gly 230 Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Tyr Met Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly 240 Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp 265 Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp 270 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu 275 Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly Leu Gln Leu Pro 290 Thr Pro Val His His His His His His His 300 Thr Pro Val His His His His His His His 310	Ala	Phe	Lys	Phe		His	Trp	Asn	Ser		Leu	Thr	Ile	Leu	_	Thr
Ala Pro Val Leu Asn Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Asn 210	Asn	Met	Ser		Ser	Gly	Thr	Tyr		CÀa	Ser	Gly	Met	_	Lys	His
Leu Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Glu Thr Lys Leu Leu Leu Gln Arg Pro Gly 235 Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Tyr Met Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly 240 Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Ser Phe Tyr Met Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly 255 Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp 260 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu 275 Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly Leu Gln Leu Pro 290 Thr Pro Val His His His His His His His 300 C210> SEQ ID NO 5 <211> Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Ser	Arg	Tyr		Ser	Ala	Gly	Ile		Val	Thr	Val	Lys		Leu	Phe	Pro
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245 250 255 Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp 260 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu 275 Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly Leu Gln Leu Pro 290 Thr Pro Val His His His His His His His 305 <210 > SEQ ID NO 5 < 211 > LENGTH: 313 < 212 > TYPE: PRT < 213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence < 220 > FEATURE: < 223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide < 400 > SEQUENCE: 5 Met Lys Ile Lys Thr Gly Ala Arg Ile Leu Ala Leu Ser Ala Leu Thr 1	Leu 225	Val	Thr	Leu	Ser	_	Glu	Thr	Lys	Leu		Leu	Gln	Arg	Pro	-
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Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly Leu Gln Leu Pro 290 Thr Pro Val His His His His His His His 300 **C2110 SEQ ID NO 5 **C2111 LENGTH: 313 **C212 TYPE: PRT **C213 ORGANISM: Artificial sequence **C220 FEATURE: **C223 OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide **C400 SEQUENCE: 5 Met Lys Ile Lys Thr Gly Ala Arg Ile Leu Ala Leu Ser Ala Leu Thr 1	Arg	Asp	Thr		Ser	Glu	Tyr	Gln		Leu	Thr	Ala	Arg	_	Glu	Asp
Thr Pro Val His His His His His His His 300 Thr Pro Val His His His His His His 305 <210 > SEQ ID NO 5 <211 > LENGTH: 313 <212 > TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence <220 > FEATURE: <223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide <400 > SEQUENCE: 5 Met Lys Ile Lys Thr Gly Ala Arg Ile Leu Ala Leu Ser Ala Leu Thr 1	Ser	Gly		Tyr	Trp	CÀa	Glu		Ala	Thr	Glu	Asp		Asn	Val	Leu
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Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 40 45		Met	Met			Ala	Ser	Ala			Lys	Ile	Glu			Met
	Gly	Gln			Thr	Pro	ГЛа			Ile	ГЛа	Leu			Pro	Trp
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Asp	Ser	Gly	Glu 100	Tyr	Arg	CÀa	Gln	Arg 105	Gly	Leu	Ser	Gly	Arg 110	Ser	Asp	
Pro	Ile	Gln 115	Leu	Glu	Val	His	Arg 120	Gly	Trp	Leu	Leu	Leu 125	Gln	Val	Ser	
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Ala	Phe	Lys	Phe	Phe 165	His	Trp	Asn	Ser	Asn 170	Leu	Thr	Ile	Leu	Lys 175	Thr	
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Ala	Pro 210	Val	Leu	Thr	Ala	Ser 215	Val	Thr	Ser	Pro	Leu 220	Leu	Glu	Gly	Thr	
Pro 225	Val	Thr	Leu	Ser	Cys 230	Glu	Thr	Lys	Leu	Leu 235	Leu	Gln	Arg	Pro	Gly 240	
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Ser	Gly	Leu 275	Tyr	Trp	CAa	Glu	Ala 280	Ala	Thr	Glu	Asp	Gly 285	Asn	Val	Leu	
Lys	Arg 290	Ser	Pro	Glu	Leu	Glu 295	Leu	Gln	Val	Leu	Gly 300	His	Gln	Gln	Pro	
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tgc	gaagt	cac o	cgcat	ctg	ec to	gggt	caagt	t tca	aacco	caat	ggtt	cct	gaa t	tggca	accgcg	240
atco	cagad	cct o	ccaco	cccgt	c ti	acc	gcatt	aco	ctcc	gcga	gcgt	caaa	cga t	ttcg	ggagaa	300
tato	gttg	gtc a	aacgt	ggc	ct ga	agcg	gccgt	ago	cgato	ccga	taca	aactt	ga a	aatto	categt	360
ggct	ggct	gc t	ttta	acag	gt ta	agct	cccg	gtt	ttaa	accg	aag	gcgaa	acc (gette	gcatta	420
cgti	gcca	acg (catg	gaaa	ga ta	aagct	ggtg	g tao	caaco	gtgc	ttta	actad	ccg (caaco	ggcaag	480
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55 55 5											

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<220> FEATURE:
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide

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tttggtggta tctacttggc catcaaccgg cacccacagc
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<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
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<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 33
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ccgccgacgt ataacgatgt ttgcccatgc ccgagcaatg
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<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
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<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 37
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 41
ccgcgcaggg ttttgctgcc catatagaac gagaaataca
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 42
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gcaaaaccct gcgcggacgc aatacctcga gtgagtatca
<210> SEQ ID NO 43
<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 43
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<210> SEQ ID NO 44
<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
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aaacagcaca tgaaaccaga ccggggtcgg cagttgaaga	40
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 56
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acageggeea tgaaaagaaa gttateagea gettgeagga
<210> SEQ ID NO 57
<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<210> SEQ ID NO 58
<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 58
ggatcgtcac cttgaggaag agctgaagtg ccaagaacaa
                                                                       40
<210> SEQ ID NO 59
<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 59
teetgeagtt geteetettt ttgttettgg caetteaget
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<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 60
agaggagcaa ctgcaggaag gcgtgcatcg taaggagccg
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<211> LENGTH: 30
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 61
ggtcgcgccc tgcggctcct tacgatgcac
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<211> LENGTH: 35
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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tatacatatg aaaataaaaa caggtgcacg catcc
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<211> LENGTH: 39
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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gcattaacga cgatgatgtt ttccgcctcg gctctcgcc
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<211> LENGTH: 40
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<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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ttgtcccatg gcttcttcga ttttggcgag agccg
<210> SEQ ID NO 66
<211> LENGTH: 40
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 66
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tcagccatgg gacaagtaga taccaccaaa gctgtgatta
<210> SEQ ID NO 67
<211> LENGTH: 54
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 67
ccaagcttaa tgatgatgat gatgatggac cggggtcggc agttgaagac ccag
                                                                        54
<210> SEQ ID NO 68
<211> LENGTH: 20
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 68
taatacgact cactataggg
                                                                        20
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<211> LENGTH: 19
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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tatgctagtt attgctcag
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<211> LENGTH: 1122
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic polynucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 70
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aaagctgtga ttacgctgca	accaccgtgg	gtgagcgtgt	tccaggaaga	aaccgtgacg	120	
ttgcactgcg aagtactgca	tctgcctggg	tcaagttcaa	cccaatggtt	cctgaatggc	180	
accgcgaccc agacctccac	cccgtcttac	cgcattacct	ccgcgagcgt	aaacgattcg	240	
ggagaatatc gttgtcaacg	tggcctgagc	ggccgtagcg	atccgataca	acttgaaatt	300	
categtgget ggetgetttt	acaggttagc	tcccgcgttt	ttaccgaagg	cgaaccgctt	360	
gcattacgtt gccacgcatg	gaaagataag	ctggtgtaca	acgtgcttta	ctaccgcaac	420	
ggcaaggctt ttaagttctt	ccactggaac	tccaacctga	ccattctgaa	gacgaacatt	480	
tcccacaacg ggacgtacca	ttgctcgggc	atgggcaaac	atcgttatac	gtcggcggga	540	
atctcggtca ccgtcaaaga	actgtttccc	gegeeegtge	tgaatgcgag	tgtgacaagc	600	
ccgctgcttg aaggcaatct	ggtgaccctg	agctgcgaaa	ccaaactgct	gttacagcgt	660	
cccggcctgc agctgtattt	ctcgttctat	atgggcagca	aaaccctgcg	cggacgcaat	720	
acctcgagtg agtatcagat	tttaaccgcg	cgtcgtgaag	atagtgggct	gtactggtgt	780	
gaageggega eegaggatgg	caatgtgctt	aaacggagcc	cagagettga	gttgcaagtg	840	
ctgggtcttc aactgccgac	cccggtctgg	tttcatgtgc	tgttttacct	ggctgttggg	900	
atcatgtttc tggtcaacac	ggtgctttgg	gtaaccattc	gcaaggaact	gaagcgcaag	960	
aagaagtggg acttggagat	cagtctggac	agcggccatg	aaaagaaagt	tatcagcagc	1020	
ttgcaggagg atcgtcacct	tgaggaagag	ctgaagtgcc	aagaacaaaa	agaggagcaa	1080	
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<400> SEQUENCE: 71

Met Trp Phe Leu Thr Thr Leu Leu Leu Trp Val Pro Val Asp Gly Gln

Val Asp Thr Thr Lys Ala Val Ile Thr Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp Val Ser 25

Val Phe Gln Glu Glu Thr Val Thr Leu His Cys Glu Val Leu His Leu

Pro Gly Ser Ser Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Leu Asn Gly Thr Ala Thr Gln 50 $\,$ 60

Thr Ser Thr Pro Ser Tyr Arg Ile Thr Ser Ala Ser Val Asn Asp Ser 65 70 75 75 80

Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp Pro Ile $85 \hspace{1cm} 90 \hspace{1cm} 95$

Gln Leu Glu Ile His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser Ser Arg 100 105

Val Phe Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala Trp Lys 120

Asp Lys Leu Val Tyr Asn Val Leu Tyr Tyr Arg Asn Gly Lys Ala Phe

Lys Phe Phe His Trp Asn Ser Asn Leu Thr Ile Leu Lys Thr Asn Ile 150 155

Ser His Asn Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Lys His Arg Tyr

<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide

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Thr Ser Ala Gly Ile S 180	er Val Thr Val 185	-	Phe Pro Ala Pro 190			
Val Leu Asn Ala Ser V 195	al Thr Ser Pro 200	Leu Leu Glu	Gly Asn Leu Val 205			
Thr Leu Ser Cys Glu T	nr Lys Leu Leu 215	Leu Gln Arg 220	Pro Gly Leu Gln			
Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe T 225 2	yr Met Gly Ser 30	Lys Thr Leu 235	Arg Gly Arg Asn 240			
Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr G 245	ln Ile Leu Thr	Ala Arg Arg 250	Glu Asp Ser Gly 255			
Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu A 260	la Ala Thr Glu 265	Asp Gly Asn	Val Leu Lys Arg 270			
Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu L 275	eu Gln Val Leu 280	Gly Leu Gln	Leu Pro Thr Pro 285			
Val Trp Phe His Val L	eu Phe Tyr Leu 295	Ala Val Gly 300	Ile Met Phe Leu			
Val Asn Thr Val Leu T 305 3	rp Val Thr Ile 10	Arg Lys Glu 315	Leu Lys Arg Lys 320			
Lys Lys Trp Asp Leu G 325	lu Ile Ser Leu	Asp Ser Gly	His Glu Lys Lys 335			
Val Ile Ser Ser Leu G 340	ln Glu Asp Arg 345		Glu Glu Leu Lys 350			
Cys Gln Glu Gln Lys G 355	lu Glu Gln Leu 360	Gln Glu Gly	Val His Arg Lys 365			
Glu Pro Gln Gly Ala T	nr					
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ttttccgcct cggctctcgc	caaaatcgaa ga	agccatgg gaca	aagtaga taccaccaaa 120			
gctgtgatta cgctgcaacc	accgtgggtg ag	cgtgttcc agga	aagaaac cgtgacgttg 180			
cactgcgaag tactgcatct	gcctgggtca ag	ttcaaccc aato	ggtteet gaatggeace 240			
gcgacccaga cctccacccc	gtcttaccgc at	tacctccg cgag	gegtaaa egatteggga 300			
gaatatcgtt gtcaacgtgg	cctgagcggc cg	tagcgatc cgat	acaact tgaaattcat 360			
cgtggctggc tgcttttaca	ggttagctcc cg	cgttttta ccga	aaggcga accgcttgca 420			
ttacgttgcc acgcatggaa	agataagctg gt	gtacaacg tgct	ttacta ccgcaacggc 480			
aaggetttta agttetteea	ctggaactcc aa	cctgacca ttct	gaagac gaacatttcc 540			
cacaacggga cgtaccattg	ctcgggcatg gg	caaacatc gtta	atacgtc ggcgggaatc 600			
teggteaceg teaaagaact	gtttcccgcg cc	cgtgctga atgo	egagtgt gacaageeeg 660			
ctgcttgaag gcaatctggt	gaccetgage tg	cgaaacca aact	getgtt acagegteee 720			
ggcctgcagc tgtatttctc	gttctatatg gg	cagcaaaa ccct	gegegg aegeaatace 780			
tcgagtgagt atcagatttt	aaccgcgcgt cg	tgaagata gtgg	ggctgta ctggtgtgaa 840			

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geggegaceg aggatggeaa tgtgettaaa eggageeeag agettgagtt geaagtgetg ggtcttcaac tgccgacccc ggtccatcat catcatcatc attaagctt <210> SEQ ID NO 73 <211> LENGTH: 313 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide <400> SEQUENCE: 73 Met Lys Ile Lys Thr Gly Ala Arg Ile Leu Ala Leu Ser Ala Leu Thr Thr Met Met Phe Ser Ala Ser Ala Leu Ala Lys Ile Glu Glu Ala Met Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Thr Lys Ala Val Ile Thr Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp Val Ser Val Phe Gln Glu Glu Thr Val Thr Leu His Cys Glu Val Leu His Leu Pro Gly Ser Ser Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Leu Asn Gly Thr Ala Thr Gln Thr Ser Thr Pro Ser Tyr Arg Ile Thr Ser Ala Ser Val Asn Asp Ser Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp Pro Ile Gln Leu Glu Ile His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser 120 Ser Arg Val Phe Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala 135 $\hbox{Trp Lys Asp Lys Leu Val Tyr Asn Val Leu Tyr Tyr Arg Asn Gly Lys } \\$ 150 Ala Phe Lys Phe Phe His Trp Asn Ser Asn Leu Thr Ile Leu Lys Thr Asn Ile Ser His Asn Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Lys His 185 Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Ile Ser Val Thr Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro Ala Pro Val Leu Asn Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Asn Leu Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Glu Thr Lys Leu Leu Leu Gln Arg Pro Gly Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Tyr Met Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly Arg Asn Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp 265 Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly Leu Gln Leu Pro Thr Pro Val His His His His His <210> SEQ ID NO 74 <211> LENGTH: 27 <212> TYPE: DNA

<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 33
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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acaagcccgc tgcttgaagg cactccggtg a	31
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agacaç	gatgc ggtgcttcgc agtgcaa	27	
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ttgcad	rtgcg aagcaccgca tctgtct	27	
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	gaccc agacagatgc ggtactt	27	
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aagtad	ccgca tctgtctggg tcaagtt	27	
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<400>	SEOUENCE: 100		

gggtgg	gagge etggategeg gtgteattea gga	33
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	FEATURE: OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
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	LENGTH: 32	
	TYPE: DNA ORGANISM: Artificial sequence	
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<223>	OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
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	LENGTH: 31 TYPE: DNA	
	ORGANISM: Artificial sequence	
<220>	FEATURE:	
<223>	OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
<400>	SEQUENCE: 103	
tgcaca	aacgt gctttactac cacaacggca a	31
	SEQ ID NO 104	
	LENGTH: 28 TYPE: DNA	
	ORGANISM: Artificial sequence	
	FEATURE: OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
	SEQUENCE: 104	
aggttg	ggagt teeggtggaa gaaettaa	28
<210>	SEQ ID NO 105	
	LENGTH: 28	
	TYPE: DNA ORGANISM: Artificial sequence	
	FEATURE:	
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<400>	SEQUENCE: 105	
ttaagt	ctett ccaceggaac tecaacet	28
<210>	SEQ ID NO 106	
<211>	LENGTH: 30	
	TYPE: DNA	
	ORGANISM: Artificial sequence FEATURE:	
	OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
<400>	SEQUENCE: 106	
tgtggg	gacgt gttcgtcttc ggaatggtca	30
	SEQ ID NO 107	
	LENGTH: 30 TYPE: DNA	

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 107
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<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 108
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
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<400> SEQUENCE: 109
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<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 111
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<400> SEQUENCE: 112
cgcagggttt tgctgccctt atagaacga
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 113
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tcqttctata aqqqcaqcaa aaccctqcq
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<212> TYPE: PRT
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide
<400> SEQUENCE: 114
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Thr Met Met Phe Ser Ala Ser Ala Leu Ala Lys Ile Glu Glu Ala Met
Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp
Val Ser Val Phe Gln Gly Glu Ser Val Thr Leu His Cys Glu Ala Pro
His Leu Ser Gly Ser Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Leu Asn Asp Thr Ala
Ile Gln Ala Ser Thr Pro Thr Tyr His Ile Thr Ser Ala Ser Glu Asp
Asp Ser Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp
Pro Ile Gln Leu Glu Val His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser
Ser Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala
            135
Trp Lys Asp Lys Leu Val His Asn Val Leu Tyr Tyr His Asn Gly Lys
           150
Ala Phe Lys Phe Phe His Arg Asn Ser Asn Leu Thr Ile Pro Lys Thr
                                  170
Asn Thr Ser His Ser Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Arg His
Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Thr Ser Val Thr Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro
                 200
Ala Pro Val Leu Thr Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Pro Leu His Glu Gly Thr
Gln Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Glu Thr Lys Leu Leu Leu Gln Arg Pro Gly
Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Tyr Lys Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly
Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp
Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu
                     280
Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly His Gln Gln Pro
                     295
Thr Pro Val His His His His His
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<211> LENGTH: 939
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic polynucleotide
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teegeetegg etetegeeaa aategaagaa geeatgggae aagtagatae eeceaaaget
                                                                      120
gtgattaagc tgcaaccacc gtgggtgagc gtgttccagg gagaatccgt gacgttgcac
                                                                      180
tgcgaagcac cgcatctgtc tgggtcaagt tcaacccaat ggttcctgaa tgacaccgcg
                                                                      240
atccaggcct ccaccccgac ttaccacatt acctccgcga gcgaagacga ttcgggagaa
                                                                      300
tatogttgtc aacgtggcct gagcggccgt agcgatccga tacaacttga agttcatcgt
ggctggctgc ttttacaggt tagctcccgc gttttaaccg aaggcgaacc gcttgcatta
cgttgccacg catggaaaga taagctggtg cacaacgtgc tttactacca caacggcaag
gettttaagt tetteeaceg gaacteeaac etgaceatte egaagaegaa caegteecac
agegggaegt accattgete gggeatggge agacategtt atacgtegge gggaaceteg
                                                                      600
qtcaccqtca aaqaactqtt tcccqcqccc qtqctqactq cqaqtqtqac aaqcccqctq
                                                                      660
catgaaggca ctcaggtgac cctgagctgc gaaaccaaac tgctgttaca gcgtcccggc
                                                                      720
ctgcagctgt atttctcgtt ctataagggc agcaaaaccc tgcgcggacg cgatacctcg
                                                                      780
agtgagtatc agattttaac cgcgcgtcgt gaagatagtg ggctgtactg gtgtgaagcg
                                                                      840
gcgaccgagg atggcaatgt gcttaaacgg agcccagagc ttgagttgca agtgctgggt
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catcaacage egaceeeggt ceatcateat catcateat
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<213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 44
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<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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gacgatgcac tgcgaagcac cgcatctgtc tgggtcaggt tcaa
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<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide
<400> SEQUENCE: 118
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Thr Met Met Phe Ser Ala Ser Ala Leu Ala Lys Ile Glu Glu Ala Met
Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp
                            40
Val Ser Val Phe Leu Gly Glu Ser Val Thr Met His Cys Glu Ala Pro
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55

60

His 65	Leu	Ser	Gly	Ser	Gly 70	Ser	Thr	Gln	Trp	Phe 75	Leu	Asn	Asp	Thr	Ala 80	
Ile	Gln	Ala	Ser	Thr 85	Pro	Thr	Tyr	His	Ile 90	Thr	Ser	Ala	Ser	Glu 95	Asp	
Asp	Ser	Gly	Glu 100	Tyr	Arg	CÀa	Gln	Arg 105	Gly	Leu	Ser	Gly	Arg 110	Ser	Asp	
Pro	Ile	Gln 115	Leu	Glu	Val	His	Arg 120	Gly	Trp	Leu	Leu	Leu 125	Gln	Val	Ser	
Ser	Arg 130	Val	Leu	Thr	Glu	Gly 135	Glu	Pro	Leu	Ala	Leu 140	Arg	Сув	His	Ala	
Trp 145	Lys	Asp	Lys	Leu	Val 150	His	Asn	Val	Leu	Tyr 155	Tyr	His	Asn	Gly	Lys 160	
Ala	Phe	ГЛа	Phe	Phe 165	His	Arg	Asn	Ser	Thr 170	Leu	Thr	Ile	Pro	Lys 175	Thr	
Asn	Thr	Ser	His 180	Ser	Gly	Thr	Tyr	His 185	Cys	Ser	Gly	Met	Gly 190	Arg	His	
Arg	Tyr	Thr 195	Ser	Ala	Gly	Thr	Ser 200	Val	Thr	Val	ГÀв	Glu 205	Leu	Phe	Pro	
Ala	Pro 210	Val	Leu	Thr	Ala	Ser 215	Val	Thr	Ser	Pro	Leu 220	His	Glu	Gly	Thr	
Gln 225	Val	Thr	Leu	Ser	Сув 230	Glu	Thr	Lys	Leu	Leu 235	Leu	Gln	Arg	Pro	Gly 240	
Leu	Gln	Leu	Tyr	Phe 245	Ser	Phe	Tyr	Lys	Gly 250	Ser	Lys	Thr	Leu	Arg 255	Gly	
Arg	Asp	Thr	Ser 260	Ser	Glu	Tyr	Gln	Ile 265	Leu	Thr	Ala	Arg	Arg 270	Glu	Asp	
Ser	Gly	Leu 275	Tyr	Trp	CAa	Glu	Ala 280	Ala	Thr	Glu	Asp	Gly 285	Asn	Val	Leu	
Lys	Arg 290	Ser	Pro	Glu	Leu	Glu 295	Leu	Gln	Val	Leu	Gly 300	His	Gln	Gln	Pro	
Thr 305	Pro	Val	His	His	His 310	His	His	His								
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tcc	gaato	egg (ctct	egee	aa aa	atcga	aagaa	a gcc	atg	gac	aagt	agat	tac o	ccca	aagct	120
gtga	attaa	agc t	tgcaa	acca	ec gt	gggt	gago	gto	gttco	tgg	gaga	atco	cgt (gacga	tgcac	180
tgc	gaago	cac o	cgcat	ctg	c to	gggt	caggt	tca	acco	aat	ggtt	cct	gaa t	gaca	ccgcg	240
atco	caggo	cct o	ccaco	cccga	ac tt	acca	acatt	aco	ctcc	gcga	gcga	agad	cga t	tagg	gagaa	300
tato	gttg	gtc a	aacgt	ggc	ct ga	agcgg	gccgt	ago	gato	cga	taca	aactt	tga a	agtto	atcgt	360
ggct	ggct	egc t	tttta	acag	gt ta	agcto	cccg	gtt	ttaa	eccg	aagg	gcgaa	acc (gette	gcatta	420
cgtt	gcca	acg (catg	gaaaq	ga ta	aagct	ggtg	g cac	caaco	gtgc	ttta	actad	cca (caaco	ggcaag	480
gctt	ttaa	agt t	tctt	ccac	eg ga	aacto	ccaco	c cts	gacca	attc	cgaa	agaco	gaa d	cacgt	cccac	540
agco	gggad	egt a	accat	tgci	cc gg	ggcat	ggg	c aga	acato	gtt	atao	gtc	ggc (gggaa	ectcg	600

gtcacc	cgtca aagaactgtt teeegegeee gtgetgaetg egagtgtgae	aagcccgctg 660
catgaa	aggca ctcaggtgac cctgagctgc gaaaccaaac tgctgttaca	gcgtcccggc 720
ctgcag	getgt atttetegtt etataaggge ageaaaaece tgegeggaeg	cgatacctcg 780
agtgag	gtatc agattttaac cgcgcgtcgt gaagatagtg ggctgtactg	gtgtgaagcg 840
gcgacc	egagg atggcaatgt gettaaaegg ageeeagage ttgagttgca	agtgctgggt 900
catcaa	acage egaceeeggt ceateateat cateateat	939
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	TYPE: DNA	
	ORGANISM: Artificial sequence	
	FEATURE: OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
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	LENGTH: 54	
	TYPE: DNA	
	ORGANISM: Artificial sequence FEATURE:	
	OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
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ccaagc	ettaa tgatgatgat gatgatggac cggggtcggc tgttgatgac	ccag 54
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	LENGTH: 25	
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	FEATURE: OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
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	OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
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	FEATURE: OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	
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acgtgt	tegt eeteggaatg gteagggt	28
<210>	SEQ ID NO 125	
	LENGTH: 28	
	TYPE: DNA	
	ORGANISM: Artificial sequence	
	FEATURE: OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide	

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accetgacea tteegaggae gaacaegt
                                                                       28
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 32
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 127
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic oligonucleotide
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Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp
Val Ser Val Phe Leu Gly Glu Ser Val Thr Met His Cys Glu Ala Pro
His Leu Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Leu Asn Asp Thr Ala
                    70
Ile Gln Ala Ser Thr Pro Thr Tyr His Ile Thr Ser Ala Ser Glu Asp
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85 90 95					
Asp Ser Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp 100 105 110					
Pro Ile Leu Leu Glu Val His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser 115 120 125					
Ser Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Ala Leu Arg Cys His Ala 130 135 140					
Trp Arg Asp Lys Leu Val His Asn Val Leu Tyr Tyr His Asn Gly Lys 145 150 160					
Ala Phe Lys Phe Phe His Arg Asn Ser Thr Leu Thr Ile Pro Arg Thr 165 170 175					
Asn Thr Ser His Ser Gly Thr Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Arg His 180 185 190					
Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro 195 200 205					
Ala Pro Val Leu Thr Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Pro Leu His Glu Gly Thr 210 215 220					
Gln Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Val Thr Lys Leu Leu Ile Gln Arg Pro Gly 225 230 235 240					
Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Tyr Lys Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly 245 250 255					
Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Ala Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp 260 270					
Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Val Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu 275 280 285					
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Gln Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Val Thr Lys Leu Leu Ile Gln Arg Pro Gly
225
Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Tyr Lys Gly Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Gly
Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Ala Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp
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Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Val Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Leu
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agegggaegt accattgete gggeatggge agacategtt ataegtegge gggaacettg
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Val Ser Val Phe Leu Gly Glu Ser Val Thr Met Leu Cys Glu Val Pro 50 55 60	
His Leu Ser Gly Ala Gly Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Leu Asn Asp Thr Ala 65 70 75 80	
Ile Gln Ala Ser Thr Pro Thr Tyr His Ile Ala Ser Ala Ser Glu Asp 85 90 95	
Asp Ser Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp	

	100		105		110		
Pro Ile Leu 115	Leu Glu Val	His Arg	Gly Trp	Leu Leu	Leu Gln 125	Val S	Ser
Ser Arg Val 130	Leu Thr Glu	ı Gly Glu 135	Pro Leu	Val Leu 140	Arg Cys	His A	Ala
Trp Arg Asp 145	Lys Gln Val		Val Leu	Phe Tyr 155	His Asn	-	.60 .ys
Ala Phe Lys	Phe Phe His	arg Asn	Thr Thr 170	Leu Thr	Ile Pro	Arg 7	hr
Asn Thr Ser	His Ser Gly 180	Thr Tyr	His Cys 185	Ser Gly	Met Gly 190	Arg H	Iis
Arg Tyr Thr 195	Ser Ala Gly	Thr Leu 200	Val Ser	Val Lys	Glu Leu 205	Phe I	ro
Ala Pro Val 210	Leu Thr Ala	Ser Val 215	Ala Ser	Pro Leu 220	His Glu	Gly T	'hr
Gln Val Thr 225	Leu Ser Cys		Lys Leu	Leu Ile 235	Gln Arg		Sly :40
Leu Gln Leu	Tyr Phe Ser 245	Phe Tyr	Lys Gly 250	Ser Glu	Thr Leu	Arg (Sly
Arg Asp Thr	Ser Ser Glu 260	ı Tyr Gln	Ile Leu 265	Ala Ala	Arg Arg 270	Glu A	<i>r</i> ab
Ser Gly Leu 275	Tyr Trp Cys	Val Ala 280	Ala Thr	Glu Asp	Gly Asn 285	Val V	al
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Thr Pro Val	His His His		His				
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Thr Met Met Phe Ser Ala Ser Ala Leu Ala Lys Ile Glu Glu Ala Met 20 25 30	
Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp 35 40 45	
Val Ser Val Phe Leu Gly Glu Ser Val Thr Met Leu Cys Glu Val Pro 50 55 60	
His Leu Ser Gly Ala Gly Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Arg Asn Asp Thr Ala 65 70 75 80	
Ile Gln Ala Ser Thr Pro Thr Tyr His Ile Ala Ser Ala Ser Glu Asp 85 90 95	

Asp	Ser	Gly	Glu 100	Tyr	Arg	Cys	Gln	Arg 105	Gly	Leu	Ser	Gly	Arg 110	Ser	Asp	
Pro	Ile	Leu 115	Leu	Glu	Val	His	Arg 120	Gly	Trp	Leu	Leu	Leu 125	Gln	Val	Ser	
Ala	Arg 130	Val	Leu	Ile	Glu	Gly 135	Glu	Pro	Leu	Val	Leu 140	Arg	Сув	His	Ala	
Trp 145	Arg	Asp	Lys	Gln	Val 150	His	Asn	Val	Leu	Phe 155	Tyr	His	Asn	Gly	Lys 160	
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Gln 225	Val	Thr	Leu	Ser	Cys 230	Val	Thr	Lys	Leu	Leu 235	Ile	Gln	Arg	Pro	Gly 240	
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Ser	Gly	Leu 275	Tyr	Trp	CAa	Glu	Ala 280	Ala	Thr	Glu	Asp	Gly 285	Asn	Val	Val	
Lys	Arg 290	Ser	Pro	Glu	Leu	Glu 295	Leu	Gln	Val	Leu	Gly 300	His	Gln	Gln	Pro	
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245
                                    250
Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gln Ile Leu Ala Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp
            260
                                265
Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Val
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Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly His Gln Gln Pro
Thr Pro Val His His His His His
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                                                                      120
teegeetegg etetegeeaa aategaagaa geeatgggae aagtagatae eeceaaaget
                                                                      180
gtgattaagc tgcaaccacc gtgggtgagc gtgttcctgg gagaatccgt gacgatgctc
tgcgaagtac cgcatctgtc tggggcagga tcaacccaat ggttccggaa tgacaccgcg
                                                                      240
atccaggeet ceaeceegae tttecaeatt geeteegega gegaagaega ttegggagaa
                                                                      300
tategttgte aacgtggeet gageggeegt agegateega taetaettga agtteategt
                                                                      360
ggctggctgc ttttacaggt tagcgcccgc gttttaatcg aaggcgaacc gcttgtatta
                                                                      420
cgttgccacg catggagaga taagctggtg cacaacgtgc ttttctacca caacggcaag
                                                                      480
gettttaagt tetteeaceg gaacacaace etgaceatte egaggaegaa eacgteecae
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agegggaegt accattgete gggeatggge agacategtt ataegtegge gggaacettg
                                                                      600
gteteegtea aagaactgtt teeegegeee gtgetgaetg egagtgtgge aageeegetg
                                                                      660
cttgaaggca ctccggtgac cctgagctgc gtaaccaaac tgctgataca gcgtcccggc
                                                                      720
ctgcagctgt atttctcgtt ctttaagggc ggcgaaaccc tgcgcggacg cgatacctcg
                                                                      780
agtgagtatc agattttagc cgcgcgtcgt gaagatagtg ggctgtactg gtgtgaagcg
                                                                      840
                                                                      900
gcgaccgagg atggcaatgt ggttaaacgg agcccagagc ttgagttgca agtactgggt
catcaacage egaceeeggt ceatcateat catcateat
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<220> FEATURE:
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Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp
                          40
Val Ser Val Phe Leu Gly Glu Ser Val Thr Met Leu Cys Glu Val Pro
His Leu Ser Gly Ala Gly Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Arg Asn Asp Thr Ala
                   70
Ile Gln Ala Ser Thr Pro Thr Phe His Ile Ala Ser Ala Ser Glu Asp
Asp Ser Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp
Pro Ile Leu Leu Glu Val His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser
Ala Arg Val Leu Ile Glu Gly Asp Pro Leu Val Leu Arg Cys His Ala
Trp Arg Asp Lys Leu Val His Asn Val Leu Phe Tyr His Asn Gly Lys
             150
                              155
Ala Phe Lys Phe Phe His Arg Asn Thr Thr Leu Thr Ile Pro Arg Thr
                                  170
Asn Thr Ser His Ser Gly Met Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Arg His
                             185
Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Thr Leu Val Ser Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro
                           200
Ala Pro Val Leu Thr Ala Ser Val Ala Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Thr
                       215
                                           220
Pro Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Val Thr Lys Leu Leu Ile Gln Arg Pro Gly
            230
                             235
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Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Phe Lys Gly Glu Thr Leu Arg Gly

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Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Lys Ile Leu Ala Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp
Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Val
Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly His Gln Gln Pro
                        295
Thr Pro Asp His His His His His
<210> SEQ ID NO 171
<211> LENGTH: 939
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic polynucleotide
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                                                                     120
tccqcctcqq ctctcqccaa aatcqaaqaa qccatqqqac aaqtaqatac ccccaaaqct
gtgattaagc tgcaaccacc gtgggtgagc gtgttcctgg gagaatccgt gacgatgctc
                                                                     180
tgcgaagtac cgcatctgtc tggggcagga tcaacccaat ggttccggaa tgacaccgcg
                                                                     240
atccaggeet ccaccegae tttccacatt geeteegega gegaagaega ttegggagaa
                                                                     300
                                                                     360
tatogttgtc aacgtggcct gagcggccgt agcgatccga tactacttga agttcatcgt
ggctggctgc ttttacaggt tagcgcccgc gttttaatcg aaggcgaccc gcttgtatta
                                                                     420
cgttgccacg catggagaga taagctggtg cacaacgtgc ttttctacca caacggcaag
                                                                     480
gettttaagt tetteeaceg gaacacaace etgaecatte egaggaegaa caegteecac
                                                                     540
agegggatgt accattgete gggeatggge agacategtt ataegtegge gggaacettg
                                                                      600
gtotocgtca aagaactgtt toccgcgccc gtgctgactg cgagtgtggc tagcccgctg
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cttgaaggca ctccggtgac cctgagctgc gtaaccaaac tgctgataca gcgtcccggc
                                                                      720
ctgcagctgt atttctcgtt ctttaagggc ggcgaaaccc tgcgcggacg cgatacctcg
                                                                      780
agtgagtata agattttagc cgcgcgtcgt gaagatagtg ggctgtactg gtgtgaagcg
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gcgaccgagg atggcaatgt ggttaaacgg agcccagagc ttgagttgca agtactgggt
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<220> FEATURE:
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<400> SEQUENCE: 173
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187 188

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tcccacagcg ggatgtacca ttgct <210> SEQ ID NO 174 <211> LENGTH: 313 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial sequence <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic peptide <400> SEQUENCE: 174 Met Lys Ile Lys Thr Gly Ala Arg Ile Leu Ala Leu Ser Ala Leu Thr Thr Met Met Phe Ser Ala Ser Ala Leu Ala Lys Ile Glu Glu Ala Met Gly Gln Val Asp Thr Pro Lys Ala Val Ile Lys Leu Gln Pro Pro Trp Val Ser Val Phe Leu Gly Glu Ser Val Thr Met Leu Cys Glu Val Pro His Leu Ser Gly Ala Gly Ser Thr Gln Trp Phe Arg Asn Asp Thr Ala 65 70 75 80 Ile Gln Ala Ser Thr Pro Thr Phe His Ile Ala Ser Ala Ser Glu Asp Asp Ser Gly Glu Tyr Arg Cys Gln Arg Gly Leu Ser Gly Arg Ser Asp Pro Ile Leu Leu Glu Val His Arg Gly Trp Leu Leu Leu Gln Val Ser 120 Ala Arg Val Leu Ile Glu Gly Glu Pro Leu Val Leu Arg Cys His Ala 135 Trp Arg Asp Lys Leu Val His Asn Val Leu Phe Tyr His Asn Gly Lys Ala Phe Lys Phe Phe His Arg Asn Thr Thr Leu Thr Ile Pro Arg Thr 170 Asn Thr Ser His Ser Gly Met Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Arg His Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Thr Leu Val Ser Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro Ala Pro Val Leu Thr Ala Ser Val Ala Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Thr Pro Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Val Thr Lys Leu Gln Ile Gln Arg Pro Gly Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Phe Lys Gly Glu Thr Leu Arg Gly Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Val 280 Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly His Gln Gln Pro 295 Thr Pro Asp His His His His His 305 <210> SEQ ID NO 175 <211> LENGTH: 939 <212> TYPE: DNA

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gtgattaagc tgcaaccacc gtgggtgagc gtgttcctgg gagaatccgt gacgatgctc	180
tgcgaagtac cgcacctgtc tggggcagga tcaacccaat ggttccggaa tgacaccgcg	240
atccaggcct ccaccccgac tttccacatt gcctccgcga gcgaagacga ttcgggagaa	300
tategttgte aacgtggeet gageggeegt agegateega taetaettga agtteategt	360
ggctggctgc ttttacaggt tagcgcccgc gttttaatcg aaggcgaacc gcttgtatta	420
cgttgccacg catggagaga taagctggtg cacaacgtgc ttttctacca caacggcaag	480
gettttaagt tetteeaceg gaacacaace etgaceatte egaggaegaa caegteecae	540
agegggatgt accattgete gggeatggge agacategtt atacgtegge gggaacettg	600
gtctccgtca aagaactgtt tcccgcgccc gtgctgactg cgagtgtggc aagcccgctg	660
cttgaaggca ctccggtgac cctgagctgc gtaaccaaac tgcagataca gcgtcccggc	720
ctgcagctgt atttctcgtt ctttaagggc ggcgaaaccc tgcgcggacg cgatacctcg	780
agtgagtatc agattttagc cgcgcgtcgt gaagatagtg ggctgtactg gtgtgaagcg	840
gcgaccgagg atggcaatgt ggttaaacgg agcccagagc ttgagttgca agtactgggt	900
catcaacagc cgaccccgga ccatcatcat catcatcat	939
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Asn Thr Ser His Ser Gly Met Tyr His Cys Ser Gly Met Gly Arg His
           180
                                185
Arg Tyr Thr Ser Ala Gly Thr Leu Val Ser Val Lys Glu Leu Phe Pro
                            200
Ala Pro Val Leu Thr Ala Ser Val Ala Ser Pro Leu Leu Glu Gly Thr
                        215
Pro Val Thr Leu Ser Cys Val Thr Lys Leu Gln Ile Gln Arg Pro Gly
Leu Gln Leu Tyr Phe Ser Phe Phe Lys Gly Glu Thr Leu Arg Gly
Arg Asp Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Lys Ile Leu Ala Ala Arg Arg Glu Asp
Ser Gly Leu Tyr Trp Cys Glu Ala Ala Thr Glu Asp Gly Asn Val Val
Lys Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Glu Leu Gln Val Leu Gly His Gln Gln Pro
Thr Pro Asp His His His His His
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                                                                     120
gtgattaagc tgcaaccacc gtgggtgagc gtgttcctgg gagaatccgt gacgatgctc
                                                                     180
tgcgaagtac cgcatctgtc tggggcagga tcaacccaat ggttccggaa tgacaccgcg
                                                                     240
atccaggeet ccaeceegae tttccaeatt geeteegega gegaagaega ttegggagaa
                                                                     300
tatogttgtc aacgtggcct gagcggccgt agcgatccga tactacttga agttcatcgt
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ggctggctgc ttttacaggt tagcgcccgc gttttaatcg aaggcgaccc gcttgtatta
                                                                     420
cgttgccacg catggagaga taagctggtg cacaacgtgc ttttctacca caacggcaag
                                                                      480
gettttaagt tettecaceg gaacacaace etgaecatte egaggaegaa caegteecae
agegggatgt accattgete gggeatggge agacategtt ataegtegge gggaacettg
gtotocgtca aagaactgtt toccgogooc gtgctgactg cgagtgtggc aagoocgctg
cttgaaggca ctccggtgac cctgagctgc gtaaccaaac tgcagataca gcgtcccggc
                                                                      720
                                                                      780
ctqcaqctqt atttctcqtt ctttaaqqqc qqcqaaaccc tqcqcqqacq cqatacctcq
aqtqaqtata aqattttaqc cqcqcqtcqt qaaqataqtq qqctqtactq qtqtqaaqcq
                                                                      840
gcgaccgagg atggcaatgt ggttaaacgg agcccagagc ttgagttgca agtactgggt
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<222> LOCATION: (19)..(19)

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acgttgcact gcgaagtann kcatctgcct ggg
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: m stands for either a or c
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aagcggttcg ccttcggtmn naacgcggga gc
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<309> DATABASE ENTRY DATE: 1986-07-21
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Met Lys Ile Lys Thr Gly Ala Arg Ile Leu Ala Leu Ser Ala Leu Thr
Thr Met Met Phe Ser Ala Ser Ala Leu Ala
            20
```

50

The invention claimed is:

- 1. An Fc binding protein which comprises a human Fc γ RI α -chain region modified by substitution, wherein the unmodified human Fc γ RI a-chain region comprises residues 16-289 of SEQ ID NO: 1, and wherein said substitutions comprise substitution of phenylalanine at position 114 of 30 SEQ ID NO: 1 with leucine.
- 2. An Fc binding protein, wherein said Fc binding protein comprises the amino acid sequence of residues 34 to 307 of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 3, 4, 5, 114, 118, 130, 134, 148, 154, 164, 170, 174, and 176.
- 3. An Fc binding protein, wherein said Fc binding protein comprises the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 2, 3, 4, 5, 114, 118, 130, 134, 148, 154, 164, 170, 174, and 176.
- **4**. An adsorbent for a protein containing an Fc binding protein binding site, the adsorbent obtained by immobilizing to a solid phase the Fc binding protein according to claim **1**.
 - 5. An antibody purification method comprising:
 - (1) adding a solution containing an antibody to an adsorbent, the adsorbent obtained by immobilizing to a solid phase an Fc binding protein, wherein said Fc binding protein comprises the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 114, 118, 130, 134, 148, 154, 164, 170, 174, and 176; and
 - (2) eluting the antibody adsorbed to the adsorbent with a buffer solution of pH 3.0 to pH 4.5.
- **6.** An Fc binding protein which comprises a human FcγRI α-chain region modified by substitution, wherein the unmodified human FcγRI α-chain region comprises residues 55 16-289 of SEQ ID NO: 1, and wherein the substitution(s) are selected from the group consisting of (1) to (167), with the proviso that at least phenylalanine at position 114 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine:
 - (1) threonine at position 20 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
 - (2) threonine at position 25 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by lysine;
 - (3) threonine at position 38 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;
 - (4) leucine at position 46 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or proline;

- (5) alanine at position 62 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (6) threonine at position 63 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (7) serine at position 69 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by phenylalanine or threonine;
- (8) arginine at position 71 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (9) valine at position 77 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or glutamic acid;
- (10) asparagine at position 78 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (11) aspartic acid at position 94 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamic acid;
- (12) isoleucine at position 100 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (13) serine at position 110 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by asparagine;
- (14) phenylalanine at position 114 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (15) histidine at position 125 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (16) leucine at position 131 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or proline;
- (17) tryptophan at position 149 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (18) leucine at position 156 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
- (19) isoleucine at position 160 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine;
- (20) asparagine at position 163 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (21) asparagine at position 195 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (22) threonine at position 199 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (23) asparagine at position 206 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by lysine, serine, or threonine;
- (24) leucine at position 207 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
- (25) leucine at position 218 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;

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- (26) asparagine at position 240 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (27) leucine at position 248 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (28) leucine at position 283 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (29) leucine at position 285 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (30) valine at position 17 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine or glutamic acid;
- (31) threonine at position 19 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (32) threonine at position 20 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (33) threonine at position 25 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 15 substituted by methionine or arginine;
- (34) glutamine at position 27 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline or lysine;
- (35) glutamine at position 35 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine, methionine, or arginine:
- (36) glutamic acid at position 36 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (37) leucine at position 41 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine;
- (38) histidine at position 42 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (39) glutamic acid at position 44 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (40) valine at position 45 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (41) leucine at position 46 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, asparagine, aspartic acid, glutamine, glycine, histidine, lysine, serine, or tryptophan;
- (42) histidine at position 47 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine, leucine, or asparagine;
- (43) proline at position 49 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine or alanine;
- (44) glycine at position 50 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamic acid;
- (45) serine at position 51 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 40 by alanine, threonine, leucine, proline, or valine;
- (46) serine at position 52 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (47) serine at position 53 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine, threonine, or proline;
- (48) glutamine at position 55 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (49) phenylalanine at position 57 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by tyrosine;
- (50) leucine at position 58 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted 50 by arginine;
- (51) glycine at position 60 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (52) threonine at position 61 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;
- (53) alanine at position 62 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamic acid;
- (54) threonine at position 63 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine, or phenylalanine;
- (55) glutamine at position 64 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 60 substituted by proline, histidine, leucine, or lysine;
- (56) threonine at position 65 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or valine;
- (57) serine at position 66 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (58) threonine at position 67 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;

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- (59) serine at position 69 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (60) tyrosine at position 70 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or phenylalanine;
- (61) arginine at position 71 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by tyrosine;
- (62) threonine at position 73 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;
- (63) serine at position 74 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by phenylalanine;
- (64) serine at position 76 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by asparagine;
- (65) valine at position 77 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid or lysine;
- (66) asparagine at position 78 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine or glycine;
- (67) serine at position 80 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (68) arginine at position 84 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (69) glycine at position 88 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (70) leucine at position 89 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine or proline;
- (71) serine at position 90 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (72) arginine at position 92 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by cysteine or leucine;
- (73) isoleucine at position 96 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine or lysine;
- (74) glutamine at position 97 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine or lysine;
- (75) histidine at position 101 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (76) arginine at position 102 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine or leucine;
- (77) glycine at position 103 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid or serine;
- (78) serine at position 111 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (79) threonine at position 115 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine or phenylalanine;
- (80) glutamic acid at position 118 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (81) alanine at position 121 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine or valine:
- (82) lysine at position 128 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glycine;
- (83) aspartic acid at position 129 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (84) leucine at position 131 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (85) tyrosine at position 133 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or arginine;
- (86) asparagine at position 134 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (87) tyrosine at position 137 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by phenylalanine;
- (88) tyrosine at position 138 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (89) arginine at position 139 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (90) asparagine at position 140 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (91) glycine at position 141 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid or valine;

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- (92) lysine at position 142 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamic acid or arginine;
- (93) phenylalanine at position 144 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (94) phenylalanine at position 147 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 5 substituted by serine;
- (95) histidine at position 148 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamine;
- (96) tryptophan at position 149 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (97) serine at position 151 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (98) asparagine at position 152 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine, isoleucine, or proline;
- (99) threonine at position 154 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 15 substituted by serine;
- (100) leucine at position 156 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine;
- (101) lysine at position 157 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (102) asparagine at position 159 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine or aspartic acid;
- (103) isoleucine at position 160 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine, valine, or leucine;
- (104) serine at position 161 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (105) threonine at position 165 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine;
- (106) methionine at position 171 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (107) lysine at position 173 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (108) histidine at position 174 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (109) threonine at position 177 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 35 substituted by serine;
- (110) isoleucine at position 181 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine;
- (111) serine at position 182 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by threonine, leucine, valine, or glutamic acid;
- (112) threonine at position 184 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (113) proline at position 190 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (114) valine at position 193 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by leucine;
- (115) asparagine at position 195 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (116) alanine at position 196 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (117) valine at position 198 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine or methionine;
- (118) threonine at position 199 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;
- (119) serine at position 200 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine or arginine;
- (120) leucine at position 202 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by methionine;
- (121) leucine at position 203 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine, glutamine, tyrosine, arginine, 60 or proline;
- (122) glutamic acid at position 204 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (123) leucine at position 207 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine, histidine, or arginine;
- (124) threonine at position 209 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine;

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- (125) serine at position 211 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glycine;
- (126) glutamic acid at position 213 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine or isoleucine;
- (127) lysine at position 215 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamic acid;
- (128) leucine at position 217 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamine;
- (129) leucine at position 218 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine, methionine, or lysine;
- (130) glutamine at position 219 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline or arginine;
- (131) leucine at position 223 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine, glutamine, or methionine;
- (132) glutamine at position 224 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;
- (133) leucine at position 225 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (134) phenylalanine at position 227 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (135) tyrosine at position 230 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or phenylalanine;
- (136) methionine at position 231 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by lysine or arginine;
- (137) serine at position 233 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine or asparagine;
- (138) lysine at position 234 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamic acid;
- (139) asparagine at position 240 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (140) glutamic acid at position 244 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (141) tyrosine at position 245 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine or glutamic acid;
- (142) glutamine at position 246 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or lysine;
- (143) leucine at position 248 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by isoleucine;
- (144) threonine at position 249 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or serine;
- (145) alanine at position 250 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (146) arginine at position 251 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (147) arginine at position 252 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine:
- (148) glutamic acid at position 253 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glycine;
- (149) leucine at position 257 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or glutamine;
- (150) glutamic acid at position 261 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine or alanine;
- (151) alanine at position 262 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (152) alanine at position 263 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (153) threonine at position 264 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine;
- (154) glutamic acid at position 265 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine or glycine;
- (155) asparagine at position 268 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by serine, isoleucine, or threonine;
- (156) leucine at position 270 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by histidine, arginine, or valine;
- (157) lysine at position 271 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine;

- (158) arginine at position 272 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine;
- (159) glutamic acid at position 277 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by valine;
- (160) glutamine at position 279 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 5 substituted by arginine or histidine;
- (161) glycine at position 282 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by aspartic acid;
- (162) leucine at position 283 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by proline;
- (163) leucine at position 285 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by arginine or histidine;
- (164) proline at position 286 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by glutamine, arginine, or glutamic acid;
- (165) threonine at position 287 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is 15 substituted by isoleucine, proline, alanine, or valine;
- (166) proline at position 288 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, serine, or threonine; and
- (167) valine at position 289 of SEQ ID NO: 1 is substituted by alanine, aspartic acid, glycine, leucine, or 20 isoleucine.

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